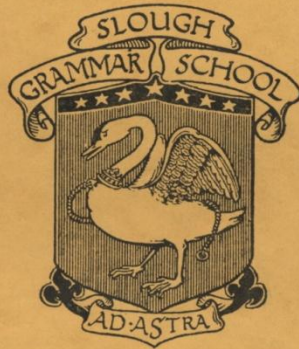


THE SWAN



JULY, 1955 - No. 21

THE SWAN

The Magazine of Slough Grammar School

No. 21

July, 1955

Editorial

ONCE again the time has come for the editors of *The Swan* to rack their brains over the writing of the editorial and, as is usual, during the past few weeks they have been attempting to provide suitable material to fill the opening page. As last year a triumvirate has edited the magazine, this time under the supervision of one of the School's new English masters, Mr. Madge, who has given unsparingly of his time to furthering the aims of *The Swan*.

This year, the long-awaited extensions to the School have been commenced, and as a result the face of the School has been considerably altered. Although the construction has been a constant source of discomfort and disruption to all and sundry, it is pleasing to note that, when completed, many of the existing accommodation difficulties will be solved. New facilities provided will include a Library, Geography room, Staff room, class rooms and Sixth Form study rooms. In addition to this, school meals will be prepared and served in the new Dining Hall and Kitchen. The existing kitchen will be converted for use as a Senior Biology Laboratory, while the present Biology Laboratory will serve as a General Science Lab. It is interesting to note that the estimated cost of the new buildings will surpass that of the original premises. It is sincerely hoped, in view of this fact, that the extensions will be treated with the respect they deserve.

This year has been an eventful one, both culturally and academically. School Societies are as flourishing as ever and it is most gratifying to read elsewhere in this issue of their activities and the support which they receive, both from School and Staff. These Societies provide much of the extra-curricular life which is so important a feature of a Grammar School course. It is also noticed that the House spirit, long dormant except for Athletics, is beginning to awake and assert itself. May it continue with great success. More boys than ever before have gained provisional or definite acceptances at Universities. The name of Slough Grammar School will be borne afar, from Bristol through Oxford to Durham. Such achievement is indeed an expression of our School Motto—"Ad Astra." Aiming for the stars (not the film kind) is a very desirable thing and every boy in our School has the opportunity to strive for those things in life which are really worthwhile.

Readers of *The Swan* will have realised by now that the price has been increased. This unavoidable occurrence has been necessitated owing to rising costs and it should be remembered that the price of the evening newspapers was increased long before *The Swan*! Therefore it is up to you all, as subscribers, to contribute more material and extend sales in an effort to make *The Swan* a bigger and better publication. To those whose contributions are not published: it is regretted that the standard was not high enough. Do not be discouraged, however. Resolve that next year your contribution will be of such quality and handed in so early that the editors will not dare to omit it! By this means it is hoped that *The Swan* will become a worthy reflection of the School it represents.

B. J. GARNER I. G. SIMMONS E. WALLNER

School Notes

WE WELCOMED three new members to the teaching staff last September—Mr. D. S. Madge and Mr. C. A. Waite joined the English Department, and Mr. W. G. Street the Languages Department.

At the end of July we shall take farewell of Mr. D. Luck, to whom we wish a long and happy retirement after 15 years' loyal service on the staff. He will be remembered by many to whom he gave enthusiasm for gymnastics, for the summer displays, and for the gymnastic competitions with Eton College.

Mr. G. Tourret will also be leaving us to return to Aix-en-Provence. We thank him for his friendliness, his help in studies, and his full participation in our School activities.

Congratulations to G. Brecknell, B. Climer, and S. F. Holness who gained State Scholarships on the results of the G.C.E. Examination at Scholarship Level.

The record number of 17 proceeded to University last October, 15 direct from the Sixth Form, and two after National Service.

W. A. F. Morgan began his first term in September as an officer cadet at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Lieut. G. Turnbull, now posted to the Regiment of the Royal Artillery, was placed in the "top third" in the passing out tests at R.M.A. last August. Congratulations and good wishes to him.

A. A. Overton gained an R.A.F. Cadetship to Henlow (Technical Service) and has since been admitted for next October to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, as a student.

At the time of going to press no less than 26 members of the Sixth Form have been offered University places for next October. We hope that examination results will confirm these offers.

Next Autumn D. Clarke of the Sixth Form, and W. F. D. Hamblen and W. S. Creighton after their National Service, will enter Training Colleges to become teachers.

The School has been represented at Shortenalls for orchestral courses, and for the French course for Sixth Formers, where Mr. W. G. Street was one of the responsible teachers in charge of the programme. In February the Geographers of the Sixth Form spent a week there in field studies under the direction of Mr. Purvis and colleagues.

The School Dramatic production last December reached new heights with a performance of Miles Malleon's version of Molière's comedy *L'Avare*. Among a good cast I. Simmons as the Miser, and R. Bowers as Frosine earned special mention. Again the School orchestra, trained by Mr. Hampshire, played interval music most pleasantly.

It was a great privilege to welcome Dr. P. Dunsheath, Chairman of Convocation of the University of London and a distinguished scientist, as our guest speaker for Speech Day on the 17th November.

In January a party of our Senior boys were the very appreciative guests of Horlicks' Operatic Society to their dress rehearsal of *Trial by Jury* and *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

At Christmas a simple service of carols and lessons was held in School. The 4-part choir, trained by Mr. Harries, contributed some special carols.

A large company went in October to the performance of *Richard II* done by a visiting Company on the Orchard School stage, and to the production of *La Bohème* at the Adelphi Cinema. Throughout the year parties of boys and parents have attended orchestral concerts and plays in London.

The C.E.W.C. Conferences during the Christmas Holidays were attended by 21 members from the Sixth Form.

No fewer than 10 biologists from the Sixth Form spent a week at Dale Fort Field Centre last March engaging in marine studies. Material collected was later placed on display to parents, members of the School, and the Slough Aquarist Society.

School has enjoyed and profited from the series of talks on road safety given by Mr. Hatt of the Slough Police Force.

Our congratulations to Alan Parsons for winning the Aspro Cup for the best juvenile cyclist in Slough. He received the cup and an autographed copy of the Highway Code from the Minister of Transport, Mr. Boyd Carpenter, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Slough Road Safety Campaign.

By kind invitation of the Head Master of Eton College a group of Sixth Formers and Staff attended a most enjoyable and entertaining performance of *Le Voyage de M. Perrichon*.

Congratulations to Terence Groome on gaining the *Sunday Observer* trophy in the Inter-Universities Debating Competition, as the best individual debater in the Universities of the United Kingdom. The finals were both broadcast and televised.

Last summer four members of our Sixth Form travelled abroad with county grants. Garner and Wallner had great adventures during their trip through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, and Italy; D. Clarke had a quieter holiday at Troyes, and S. Painter hostelled and cycled through the Moselle Valley.

We are most grateful to Miss Yvonne Catterall for the delightful pianoforte recital she gave in the school hall on June 7th to members of the Music Society and their guests.

It is very pleasing to record the resumption this summer of the exchanges with the Lycée de Troyes. From Easter until the beginning of June seven of our boys enjoyed the hospitality of families in France, returning here with the French boys for the remainder of the summer term.

Early in July a party of 17 German boys and their Master come as guests of Form 3G, who will go back with them under the leadership of Mr. Street for the August holidays to Timmendorferstrand on the Baltic Coast of Germany.

Another party of 25, in charge of Mr. Collin and Mr. Purvis, is travelling to Aix-en-Provence and the Mediterranean at the end of July.

Once again a numerous party spent the Easter holidays among the Lakes.

R. T. Vaughan was one of ten representatives from the United Kingdom to attend the international festival of F.A.C.A.Y. (Friendship Among Children and Youth around the World), held in Holland last year.

Our congratulations to Mr. C. A. Waite on the occasion of his marriage last Easter. We wish Mrs. Waite and him every happiness.

Congratulations too to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wharmby on the birth of a son last Autumn, and to Mr. and Mrs. J. Bell on the birth of a son this Spring.

School Officials

School Captain: G. Witchell.

Vice-Captain: C. Smethurst.

Full Prefects: D. Clarke, S. Cutts, L. Goldfine, W. J. Hines, A. Jones, D. C. Jones, A. Painter, B. Pulsford, E. Rayner, I. Simmons.

Sub-Prefects: P. Anderson, F. B. Barnes, J. Barnes, B. Cleverley, J. Coward, B. Garner, C. Giles, R. Giles, L. Glanville, D. Guest, J. Hobbs, J. Mansfield, S. Painter, A. Rackstraw, R. Scott, A. Stroud, M. C. Thurgood, A. Tulip, J. Turner, E. Wallner.

House Captains:

Gray: D. C. Jones.

Hampden: E. Wallner.

Herschel: B. Cleverley.

Milton: G. Witchell.

Cricket Captain: D. C. Jones.

Football Captain: B. Pulsford.

Hockey Captain: E. Rayner.

Cross-country and Athletics Captain: J. Mansfield.

Salvette

E. ALLAN, A. Altmayer, P. Austin, A. Baker, T. Ball, M. Barry, S. Baxter, M. Billington, E. Bownass, I. Clarke, R. Clay, G. Clitheroe, D. Conlon, M. Dean, A. De Burton, P. Dowling, B. Donaldson, P. Dowson, C. Doyle, H. Duffy, R. Evans, J. Eyre, P. Eyre, R. Fabey, J. Field, T. Flower, C. Flynn, J. Ford, M. French, H. Froggatt, M. Fuggles, R. Fuller, M. Gale, A. Gallen, J. Gatehouse, B. Gates, R. Gedge, A. Gibson, T. Gibson, C. Halsey, R. Harding, M. Gilson, A. Green, L. Greenaway, P. Grimwood, K. Hart, R. Hatch, C. Hellmuth, B. Hill, R. Hill, R. Hodgson, D. Hole, W. Howlin, C. Hughes, J. Ivings, R. Jenkins, E. Jordan, L. Jury, J. Kyle, K. Lane, T. Legg, C. Lester, A. Lewis, D. Lister, R. Lister, T. Little, T. Longland, G. Lynn, E. Marsden, R. Maltey, J. Mearns, J. Murphy, M. Murphy, R. Nash, D. Noble, M. O'Dell, A. Olives, N. Painting, M. Purdy, D. Parker, A. Parsons, D. Preest, C. Price, P. Read, J. Reid, J. Ridgley, H. Roberts, D. Robinson, P. Robinson, R. Robinson, D. Rowlands, W. Rundle, P. Salmon, R. Selzo, D. Shearing, D. Spooner, J. Stableford, W. Stacey, M. Stenning, R. Stevens, M. Stokes, H. Stroud, I. Stuart, G. Taylor, M. Taylor, N. Taylor, D. Underwood, R. Wake, N. Wakeham, K. Wallis, O. Walton, A. Watson, J. Wilkerson, D. Williams, G. Winfield.

Valete

UPPER SIXTH

B. Ackrell, Bristol University; M. Askew, Bristol University; W. Birnage, London School of Economics; W. Bradshaw, Reading University; G. Brecknell, Kings College, London; D. Burnett, G. D. Peters, B. Climer, Imperial College, London; J. Ebbage, Army (N.S.); R. Edgar, Southampton University; W. Elwell, University College, London; D. Esling, Chelsea Polytechnic; R. Faulkner, Kings College Medical School; J. Gale, R.A.F. (N.S.); R. Gale, Bristol University; R. Glanville, Bristol University; H. Grimwood, Bristol University; S. Holness, London School of Economics; J. Lewis, R.N. (N.S.); W. Morgan, Royal Military College, Sandhurst; A. Overton, R.A.F. (Comm.); W. Simmons, Bristol University; C. Weatherhead, R.A.F. (N.S.); D. White, University College Medical School.

LOWER SIXTH

M. Evans, Surveying; M. Griffiths, Civil Engineering; R. Groome, Bank; J. Hinds, Merchant Navy; D. Pritchard, Rheostatic.

5L.

P. Ashley, Bank; S. Balls, Town Hall; E. Bevan, Bedfords; J. Blott, Clerk; G. Cox, Clerk; B. Duckett, Bank; K. Hall, S.M.D.; P. Holloway, Town Hall; J. Knowles, Baker Platinum; W. Loveday, B.O.A.C.; N. O'Brien, Art Clerk; J. Osborne, Garage Mechanic; M. Vockins, Clerk; P. Ward, Sciaky; S. Watson, Rootes Moulding; E. Woodford, Intertype.

5A.

J. Alder, Hanovia; W. Beal, Clerk, I.C.I.; M. Brent, I.C.I.; P. Burgess, Fulmer Research; D. Cullimore, E.M.I.; D. Daly, St. Helen's Cables; D. Delaney, Clerk; J. Dilly, Lab. Assistant; B. Dilnot, Borough Council; R. Freeman, E.R.D.C.; R. Gardner, E.M.I.; M. Gillham, Baker Platinum; L. Jackson, E.R.D.C.; P. Jupp, Slough Estates; C. Martin, Engineer; C. Newby, Houseman's Estates; J. Parker, Lab. Assistant; J. Parker, Baynes Aircraft; B. Pither, Orlit; P. Simpson, I.C.I., Lab. Assistant; M. Stewart, Monsanto, Lab. Assistant; M. Tucker, H.D.A., Access Clerk; L. Wakefield, H.D.A., Engineering Apprentice; D. Walton, Accountancy; A. Welham, Fulmer Research; P. Rolfe, I.C.I., Lab. Assistant; R. Greenfield, B.T.R..

5B.

G. Baron, Lab. Assistant; A. Bradbury, Clerk, Borough Council; A. Brookes, Hawkers Aircraft; G. Carne, M.N.; B. Chase, Quantity Surveying; J. Clarke, Farming; R. Gilder, Brewers Assistant; J. Hamilton, Pinewood Studios; D. Jones, Abrey & Garrett; T. Jones, R.N. Apprentice; B. Lovegrove, Clerk, Jackamans; R. Palmer, B.O.A.C.; T. Patmore, Apprentice Stonemason; N. Reade, Clerk, Borough Council; J. Thompson, British Railways, Junior Clerk;

R. Wood, Air-work; T. Clegg, M.N. (Steward); R. Chadburn, D. Turner, Chapmans; J. Rixon, Pinewood; D. Powell, Citroën Cars; J. Tilbury, Sciaky.

EARLY LEAVERS.

L. Hitchman, Halton R.A.F. Apprentice; D. Rees, Airwork; J. Wells, Plumber, J. Briggs; Bowyers, Joiner Apprentice; A. Young, Vulcan Products.

Speech Day

THE ANNUAL Speech Day and Prize-giving was held once again in the Central Hall on November 17th. Many of the Governors were present, though we mourned the loss of two staunch friends in Alderman John Taylor and Mr. Charles Ford.

Following the warm welcome given to many parents who were present, by the Chairman, Alderman A. E. Ward, the School sang *Veni Sancte Spiritus*. The Headmaster then read his report in which he considered the greatest achievement of the year to be the establishment of a much closer and personal association between parents and the masters teaching their sons. Dr. Long could not over estimate the value of this co-operation in deciding at an early stage in the boy's education which course of study the boy should follow. The decision to stay on at school to complete a Sixth Form course should not be withheld until after the boy's first public examination but while the boy is still in the Third or Fourth Forms. The patient work of Mr. Cave, our Careers Master, could not be more highly praised. His ceaseless energy housed 80 per cent. of our school leavers in good responsible positions.

The devoted service of the staff under the leadership of Mr. Collin was commended, and tribute was paid to F. Holness, last year's Head Boy. Unassuming, unobtrusive, he reflected the loyalty and devotion of an increasing number of Sixth Formers who are aiming high.

We were fortunate in having our presentation made by Dr. P. Dunsheath, C.B.E., D.Sc., M.A., who was astounded by the School's success in so many varied activities. He emphasised the need for further co-operation between industry and education and echoed Dr. Long in saying that industry required responsible employees with integrated personalities as well as specialised brains.

The Head Boy, G. R. Witchell, proposed a vote of thanks, which was seconded by C. Smethurst, Deputy Head Boy. The four-part choir then ended the evening with two songs composed by Edward German.

G.R.W.

AWARDS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st JULY, 1954

Form

- 1c Whitaker, R. J. (1st in Form); Waters, E. J. (2nd in Form); Wilkins, R. W. (3rd in Form).
- 1b Simmonds, M. (1st in Form); Hill, E. J. (2nd in Form); Head, M. S. (3rd in Form).
- 1A Fowler, J. S. (1st in Form); Alderman, A. E. (2nd in Form); Freeth, D. C. (3rd in Form).
- 2E Phillips, R. F. (1st in Form); Martin, K. A. (2nd in Form); Holliday, M. F. (3rd in Form).
- 2G Watts, B. K. R. (1st in Form); Colbourne, M. N. (2nd in Form); Clark, J. (3rd in Form).
- 2L Halstead, K. S. H. (1st in Form); Mason, V. (2nd in Form); Pickton, H. J. (3rd in Form).
- 3B Cook, M. D. (1st in Form); Clarke, P. A. H. (2nd in Form).
- 3A William, D. T. (1st in Form); Enterkin, H. (2nd in Form); Passler, J. F. (3rd in Form).
- 3L Hudson, A., and Odell, B. (1st in Form); O'Donoghue, C. (3rd in Form).
- 4B Wetton, P. C. (1st in Form); Roberts, C. F. (2nd in Form); Gore, F. (3rd in Form).
- 4A Tunbridge, D. E. L. (1st in Form); Hyde, S. J. (2nd in Form); Butler, K. F. (3rd in Form).
- 4L Wheeler, P. C. (1st in Form); Clarke, J. E., and Spooner, D. C. (2nd in Form).

- L.6 Barnes, F. B. (*French*); Clarke, D. G. (*Literary Studies and Library*); Giles, C. G. (*Economics*); Miles, D. W. (*Applied Maths.*); Phillips, H. L. (*Latin and Library Work*); Rayner, E. J. (*History*); Simmons, I. G. (*Geography*); Thurgood, M. C. (*Physics and Maths.*); Tulip, A. (*Pure Maths.*); Turner, J. C. (*Meteorology*); Wallner, E. (*Biology*).
For general progress and willing service: Anderson, P., Garner, B. J., and Jones, A. P.

FIFTH FORMS

[On results in examinations for Oxford General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level)]

- Billington, B. (English Language, History, 9 subjects).
Bradshaw, M. F. (Chemistry, 9 subjects).
Gardner, R. (General Science, 6 subjects).
Greenfield, R. A. (Physics, 10 subjects).
Jackson, L. E. (Geography, 5 subjects).
Little, J. R. (French, 6 subjects).
Lovegrove, B. G. (Woodwork, 6 subjects).
Morgan, J. E. (English Literature, Latin and Biology, 9 subjects).
Thorp, B. (Mathematics, 10 subjects).

Certificates

- 10 subjects: Daly, D. J.; Greenfield, R. A.; Thorpe, B.
9 subjects: Ball, K. F. B.; Billington, B.; Bradshaw, M. F.; Harpley, F. W.; Holloway, P.; Hughes, J. F.; King, G. A. D.; Morgan, J. E.; Schumann, B.
8 subjects: Brent, M.; Cox, G. M.; Duckett, B. E.; Hammans, N. J.
7 subjects: Balls, S. A.; Hinds, J. A.; Parker, J. P.; Parkes, G.; Parsons, B. A.; Vockins, M. C.; Young, J. O.
6 subjects: Burgess, P. J.; Gardner, R.; Gillham, M.; Hester, P. J.; Laing, R. J.; Little, J. R.; Lovegrove, B.; Marshall, A. E.; O'Brien, N. E.; Robinson, A. E.; Rolfe, P.; Stewart, M.; Wakefield, L.; Walton, D.
5 subjects: Ashley, P. K.; Bevan, E. V.; Carne, G.; Clarke, J.; Hanson, G. C.; Jackson, L. E.; Kennedy, J.; Knowles, J. F.; Loveday, W. F. G.; Melia, K.; Orton, A. T.; Rees, J. B.; Smith, A. F.; Woolford, E. W.; York, R. M.
4 subjects: Blott, J. W.; Clegg, T.; Cullimore, D.; Delaney, D. E.; Dilnot, B. H.; Freeman, R.; Hall, K. N.; Newby, C.; Palmer, R.; Pither, B. G.; Spinks, M. J.; Turner, D.
3 subjects: Baron, G.; Beal, W. P.; Bradbury, A.; Chadburn, R.; Dilly, J. E.; Dobson, R.; Gilder, R.; Parker, J. B.; Pritchard, D.; Reade, A.; Rixon, J.; Ward, P. B.; Welham, A.

Additional to 6th Form Studies

- 2 subjects: Groome, R. P.
1 subject: Anderson, P. H.; Cutts, S. J.; Ebbage, J. R.; Gale, J. C. C.; Giles, C. G.; Hines, W. J. W.; Jordan, J.; Miles, D. W.; Smethurst, C.; Stroud, A. G.; Tulip, A.; Weatherhead, C.

UPPER SIXTH FORM

Oxford Certificate of Education (Advanced and Scholarship Levels)

Prizes

- Ackrell, B. A. C. (3 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Askew, M. J. (2 subjects at Scholarship Level; Distinction and highest mark in Biology. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Birnage, W. H. (4 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Bradshaw, W. P. (2 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Cutts, S. J. (3 subjects at A Level; one at O Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Elwell, W. A. V. (2 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Esling, D. J. (3 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Faulkner, R. E. (1 subject at Scholarship Level; 2 at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Gale, R. L. (3 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Glanville, R. A. (3 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).

- Goldfine, L. J. (3 subjects at A Level).
Hines, W. J. W. (2 subjects at A Level; 1 at O Level).
Smethurst, C. (3 subjects at A Level; 1 at O Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
White, D. J. (3 subjects at A Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Morgan, W. A. F. (2 subjects at A Level. Sandhurst Cadetship).
Overton, A. A. (Distinction at A Level in Physics; 2 other subjects at A Level. R.A.F. University Cadetship. Awarded a County Exhibition).
Brecknell, G. W. J. (Distinction at Scholarship Level in Physics; Applied Mathematics at Scholarship Level; Pure Mathematics at A Level. Awarded a STATE SCHOLARSHIP).
Holness, S. F. (Distinction at Scholarship Level in Geography. Economics at Scholarship Level. Awarded a STATE SCHOLARSHIP).
Climer, B. J. (Distinction and highest marks at Scholarship Level in Physics and Chemistry; Applied Mathematics at A Level. Awarded a STATE SCHOLARSHIP and Open (Royal) Scholarship at Imperial College of Science, London).

Certificates

- Burnett, D. N.; Ebbage, J. R.; Gale, J.C.C.; Grimwood, H. D.; Jones, D. C.; Lewis, J. C.; Simmons, W. J.; Weatherhead, C.; Witchell, G. R.

SPECIAL PRIZES

- Headmaster's Prize: Holness, S. F. (Head Boy, 1953/54).
The "Ford" Cup (for outstanding voluntary service to the School): Bradshaw, W. P.
Library Service Prize: Clarke, D. G.
Dramatic Prize: Smethurst, C.
Swimming Championship Challenge Cup (presented by County Alderman A. E. Ward): Thomas, B. A.
Old Paludians' House Shield (for Games and Athletics): Gray House.
The Prize Fund has been greatly assisted by the generous donations received from Parents for which the School is most grateful.

School Activities

The Dramatic Society

ON THE EVENINGS of December 9th, 10th and 11th, 1954, the School Dramatic Society gave a presentation of *The Miser* by Molière.

The cast was as follows:-

Valère	Keith Ball
Elise	Harold Sandilands
Cléante	Roger Little
Harpagon	Ian Simmons
La Fleche	Howard Phillips
Master Simon	William Hines
Frosine	Robin Bowers
Jacques	N. Hammans
1st Servant	Michael Thurgood
2nd Servant	John Hughes
Mariane	Kevin Melia
Justice of the Peace	Edgar Wallner
Clerk to the Justice	Roger Bester
Seigneur Anselm	Robert Giles
Stage Manager	Mr. L. Cave
Scenery	J. Barnes, R. M. Giles, F. W. Harpley, J. Young, C. G. Hanson, A. F. Smith, J. Pywell

Electricians B. Billington, M. Deuchar
Prompter B. Bradford
Booking Office and Hall Mr. J. Wharmby
Music Mr. W. Hampshire, Mr. J. Harries

The producer was Mr. A. D. Purvis

This appears to be an uproarious comedy. It is full of good fun, full of comic situations in the best tradition. It relies for comedy upon mistakes, confusion, double-meanings, and all the legitimate means of laughter-raising which have amused theatre-goers since the time of the Greek Aristophanes. There is one central, unchanging character, Harpagon, a mean, dried-up skin-flint. He is the butt of every joke and jape. He is fundamentally and persistently foolish, and so is a ready butt for jokes and japes. His servants mock him, his family deceive him and their deceptions amuse us at his expense. The laugh is on Harpagon from beginning to end. Furthermore, not only the pranks of the other characters but also his own words and reactions amuse us, and once more we laugh *at* him, never *with* him.

But is this laughter the be-all and end-all of the play? It is not. There is more to be understood in this comedy than can be gained merely from the comic experience which it affords us. Harpagon is a strange being, an exceptional being. It is from this fact that the comedy to which he gives rise gains its peculiar flavour. Being strange and exceptional, he is unlike all those normal, healthy people who surround him on the stage. It is this contrast upon the stage which throws the principal character into so much prominence; it is this contrast which gives us an uncomfortable feeling, beneath our amusement, that this is a sick, unhealthy man somehow divorced from our own human nature, the normal human nature which is represented on the stage in the figures of Cléante, Valère, Anselm, and the rest.

The liking to possess material goods, or even coin of the realm, is often evident in humanity (perhaps an understatement), but seldom has this liking any such hold on a man as it has on Harpagon. The desire for gold may exist with many men, but Molière shows us here a desire grown to a passion, a desire which has become the sole motive for Harpagon's every thought, wish and deed. He has, in effect, a moral disease which has grown to alarming proportions.

In what sense, then, is his abnormality alarming? First, let us consider Harpagon's family as a family. It is immediately to be felt that this is no family as is usually meant by the term—a closely-knit circle bound together by natural affection and regard. There can be no denial that Cléante and his sister have family affection for each other, and they would, no doubt, show family affection for their father if there were any sign that he would appreciate or reciprocate it. But what of Harpagon? It is a strange and different kind of comedy in which a father is prepared to sacrifice his children for money without a second thought. His gold is children, wife, brothers and sisters to him. Now Harpagon is sincere in this, and this is one way in which his abnormality is alarming.

Not only has gold, instead of his family, become the object of his love, but it has also become the object of his reverence, his god. There is nothing feigned in his protestations of adoration, and if we notice this, there is again a faltering note to our laughter. Further, the comedy arising from the loss of his gold in the later stages of the play is again of an uneasy sort. When Harpagon says that he suspects the whole world, and that everyone must be arrested—and this includes his children—he reaches the climax of his fever. His gods have been violated, and all mankind are suspect.

In the strange, artificially-constructed last scene, the contrast between normal humanity and the abnormal Miser is pointed out once and for all in the most direct terms. The essence of this final contrast is seen in the gradual grouping or coming together of a happy, normal family around the person of Anselm. Anselm is of Harpagon's age, but sane. He finds his family where Harpagon had denied his family, and it is a family which will grow; it is to gain a new start from a double marriage. All is happiness, and the normal people have triumphed over the Miser. He might have been dangerous, but he has now been rendered harmless and we can laugh at him with complete good humour. So that all may be happy at the end, his gold is restored to him; even he can be allowed to have his own distorted kind of happiness.

This comedy, then, has a serious purpose; there is a warning behind it all. "See," says Molière, "how dangerous, how inhuman such a craving for wealth

and property can become if it is allowed to flourish. We normal people must not tolerate it, but must laugh it out of existence, so nullifying its danger."

Obviously, the attention is concentrated upon the central character in this play to a great extent. In the school's production, Ian Simmons was to be congratulated for the way in which he sustained the character during long periods upon the stage. Having early shown us what he took to be the Miser's character, he kept that character before our eyes unchanged throughout the length of the play. One felt that the Miser, however, could have taken himself with deeper seriousness, as the author intended—the Miser is not pretending to be miserly for the sake of making us laugh; it is his ingrained miserliness *at which* we laugh.

It must always be difficult for young men to take the part of ladies, young or old, and it was one of the production's successes that its ladies were so effectively feminine. H. Sandilands, K. Melia and R. Bowers gave restrained performances, taking great care with their carriage and mannerisms.

Bowers in particular had a difficult job, for along with the wearing task of being a female for several hours, he was called upon to present an extremely strong character, that of a scheming and worldly-wise woman, no longer so young as she used to be. A difficult job well done.

To select further names for mention is unnecessary; the whole company attacked the play with considerable zest and good humour, and in no case did one feel that one was witnessing an inadequate performance.

Mr. Purvis's production impressed by its simplicity. In the best comic traditions, the characters were clearly-defined, so that we knew exactly where we stood with them, and could laugh without worrying over complications. The stage set, being so simple in design and furnishings, distracted no attention. The make-up, boldly used to express character, was especially effective.

All who took part in this production deserve thanks firstly for a spirited attack upon, and an effective performance of, an important play—and they deserve thanks too for maintaining the School Drama Society's reputation in this town as a society not afraid to tackle a formidable task.

The School Library

ON TAKING UP HIS APPOINTMENT as English master in the school Mr. Waite began the reorganisation of the School Library. The procedure adopted now conforms with that of most Public Libraries. He was helped in his undertaking by the Chief Librarians A. Marshall, J. Little and, until recently, D. Clarke of the Sixth-form, and an invaluable corps of assistants appointed early in the school year. Great progress has been made.

Our main task has been to prepare all the stock for a quick change-over, into the newly-built library in September. The reference section has been greatly enlarged, among our purchases being the *Encyclopedia Britannica*; we have, however, by no means neglected the fiction and non-fiction sections.

Our new room will provide far more facilities for reading and study than have before been possible. There will be fluorescent strip-lighting, more space for tables and shelves, and an adequate work-room. The present opening times will be retained, if not extended, and it is hoped, indeed expected, that all will benefit by the change.

Most of our difficulties have been overcome. At the present time some four hundred boys are taking advantage of our services. Our ambition, which we hope will be realised in the near future, is the membership of every boy in the school. Therefore we invite you, if you are not already a member, to support your School Library by joining at the earliest opportunity.

J. R. LITTLE.

Cadet Notes

LAST AUGUST the Buckinghamshire Army Cadet Force Annual Camp was at Fort Tregantle, across the water from historic Plymouth. After the first day the mists cleared and we found ourselves stationed on a splendid site with the blue sea immediately below. Our Company kept its place very well among the other

200 Cadets who had come from all parts of the County. Grammar School Company won the award for the best barrack-room. They also helped their battalion to win the County Athletics Championship once again. Here Sgt. A. G. Stroud won the senior 100 and 800 yards races. Cpl. G. Morgan won the junior high-jump, and Cdt. D. Millard the junior long-jump. The camp was officially visited by Field Marshal Lord Wilson who spoke to several of our boys individually when he inspected their barrack-room. Besides the normal training which occupied the mornings, there were organised bathing parades every day and frequent outings to Plymouth, including one to the Navy. For these, special buses took Cadets to and from the ferry. It was a very successful camp, and we wish to express our gratitude to the Permanent Staff who worked so untiringly for the Cadets, to the County Cadet Committee and to the 1st (Slough) Battalion.

The main Certificate "A" examinations are yet to take place, but already, in January, Cdt. C. Rees has passed Part I, and Cpl. D. Bell and L/c. G. Hanson have been awarded the full Certificate. That examination was strict and these Cadets merit congratulation.

The 1st Battalion has held two "at homes" this year. We provided a demonstration of wireless signalling for the first, which was for parents. On the second occasion, when the guests were the Sea Cadets and the Air Training Corps, this Company provided the Bn. "Quiz" team.

At Signals Courses run by Southern Command Royal Signals at Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain, Cpl. D. Bell and Cpl. K. Elstone qualified as Assistant Instructors, and L/c. G. Hanson and L/c. J. Taylor became Classified Signallers.

In March our team won the Battalion cross-country championship. The team was Sgt. Stroud, Cdt. Flynn, Cdt. Cross, and Cdt. Southam.

At the half-term holiday in the Autumn Term the Company held an exercise in Burnham Beeches, where, in spite of unfavourable weather, the section leaders achieved admirable results in map-reading and patrolling.

Just before Christmas we held our own Christmas Party for the first time. It was a success, and that was mainly due to the kindness of the parents, who went to great trouble to provide a feast of sandwiches, pastries, cakes, jellies and trifles.

This year, too, we have begun the practice of a small committee meeting regularly, presided over by the senior N.C.O., who this year is Sgt. A. G. Stroud.

We eagerly take this opportunity to commend most highly the loyalty of the N.C.O.s. Without their steadfastness it is hard to see how the School Company could be kept going.

We wish also to welcome the fourteen new recruits from the IIIrd and IVth Forms and we hope they may be able to play a real part in maintaining our long tradition.

We end these notes looking forward to our next camp at the seaside. This year it will be at Weymouth, under canvas, from Sunday, July 31st to Wednesday, August 11th. It seems a pity that more boys in the School do not avail themselves of this chance of a seaside holiday with other boys, especially when the only charge made is the modest one of eleven shillings!

Lake District 1955

ON SATURDAY, 9th April, the inhabitants of Lascelles Road again witnessed the spectacular sight of forty young lads of various shapes, sizes and haircuts trying to fit themselves into the back seat of a Windsor coach. By about eight o'clock this "back-seat" contest had been well and truly decided in favour of the elder brethren amongst the party—namely the "goodies" from the Sixth, and off trundled the coach load of trouble on the first step of the 300-mile journey to Cumberland. The journey, however long and tiring it was, was enjoyed by all, that is to say, with the exception probably of the driver. We arrived intact at Keswick, after changing coaches and driver at Newcastle, in the early evening and then it was thought that we had come away from the holiday weather that was evident in Slough earlier that day to typical Lake District weather—RAIN. However, once inside the hostel and confronted with

some of "Mack's" never failing "hot-pot", the weather was forgotten and talk centred around other things. The rest of the evening was spent making ourselves at home in that now well known home-from-home that was to become the operational base for onslaughts on the many figures of imposing beauty that abound in the lakes—ranging from Helvellyn to High St. Pass, or Skiddaw to Milk Bar Hill.

The heavens bestowed upon us some of the most glorious weather possible during the ten days stay at Keswick, but it is as yet uncertain whether this can be attributed to those members of the party who attended the Easter service at Crosthwaite Church, or to "Medicine-Man" Turner who made the habit of working his magic in a loud clear voice that was interrupted with gurgling sounds of the previous evening's lubrication at about two o'clock every other morning. With such glorious weather on our side then, the walks and visits organised were enjoyed immensely by all. Walking parties were sent out on various missions, some to conquer Glaramara or Blencathra, others to overcome Dove's Nest and Lady's Steps, while still further parties managed to climb mountains including Scafell Pikes, Gable, Pillar, Langdale Pikes, Cat Bells, Red Pike and Robinson. It was very pleasing to see that some of Britain's future Himalayan conquerors, headed by "Sherpy" Knight and comprising Frank Holness, Dave Hossack and Alan Carr, aroused themselves from their slumbers in the very early hours of the morning to ascend Skiddaw—just to see the sunrise. (Note: Anyone interested in making a small fortune should get to the top of Skiddaw as soon as possible in the expedition). Another expedition from empty bottles that were left by the expedition). Another expedition that deserves mention were the poor unfortunates who, needless to say, under the direction of Frank Holness, completed a twenty-three mile "bash" one day and who came over Sticks Pass at dusk—a quite formidable feat. Other notable excursions included the Bradamle life-saving quintuplet who successfully carried down an injured lad from Langdale Pike; two aged historians who had to give up an attempt to conquer Latrigg because of a failing in the oxygen apparatus; and the leaders of the never failing assaults upon Keswick's *pièce de résistance*, Milk Bar Hill. Outside visits were again made to Carlisle and the Roman Wall, Barrow, Furness Abbey, to various coal mines, and to the very enlightening headquarters of the North West Cumberland Development Board where Lord Adams of Ennerdale gave us a very interesting talk.

Just as the business side of the stay in the Lake District was enjoyed by all, so, I feel sure, were the recreative. Some people preferred to remain at home to enjoy a game of table tennis and maybe bridge (but what comparison can be drawn between playing bridge inside the hostel and those who completed a hand on the top of Gable?), while others preferred to get out and derive enjoyment from other sources, whether it was from putting, the cinema, boating or dancing. I feel sure that the tradesmen of the town are now a few shillings better off than before we arrived.

Our thanks must surely go to several people for making possible the enjoyable ten days.

Firstly to Mr. Purvis, who so faithfully organises the adventure every year for us to enjoy.

To Mr. Knight, who was washed regularly by the Sixth Form patented gadget for drenching the aged.

To the valuable assistants who helped control the mob on walks.

To Mack for his excellent and willing driving of the coach and last but not least to Mr. and Mrs. MacCambridge who did so well for us at the Hostel.

There remains nothing else for me to say now except to tell you that if you are accustomed to awaking to the song of the Keswick Thrush, the sound of the breaking window, the chant of the Bristol Alphabet or the squelch of sopping bedroom slippers, you will definitely enjoy listening to those familiar words, so much loved by all, that may greet you at nine o'clock every morning, "Wakey wakey, rise and shine; you'll feel better with two feet on the ground; come along now." Oh, drop dead!

"BOOT SLINGER."

"Purveyors" at Shortenhills

IN EARLY February the Bucks Educational Camp at Shortenhills was "visited" by an advanced Geography group of the Sixth Form. We were under the expert guidance of Mr. A. D. Purvis, senior Geography master, who set a high standard, not only in work but in the manner of dress for field work. The camp "commander" was Mr. Crow, who proved to be of great service to us with regard to equipment and books. The purpose of the visit was to enable the senior geographers to gain some experience in field study. We were there for five days only and therefore speed in work was essential. Everyone had cycled out to Chalfont St. Giles and good use was made of the cycles. Our opening study was that of surveying, in its many different forms. Borrowing a theodolite and other equipment from Newlands Park T.C. we proceeded in all directions to survey the countryside. On one day we had the pleasure of Mr. Porter's company and he spent a pleasant day, giving us the benefit of his experience. The late afternoon and evening were mainly devoted to cardboard modelling of typical land features. This proved to be skilled work as those of us with "five thumbs" soon found out. Film strips on various aspects of Geography were helpful, while recreation took the form of table tennis and bridge.

After two days the weather turned in our favour and we were able to roam the countryside and put in many enjoyable hours field-sketching, from which our appreciation of the beauty of this old country of ours was greatly increased. Probably the most enjoyable part of our course was the trip to the new town of Stevenage. We visited the New Town's Development Board and were taken on a conducted tour of the new town. The plans were unfolded to us and we were able to ask questions at will, technical or personal. The Headmaster accompanied us and took a great deal of interest in our work. The stay was rounded off by a complete Land Utilisation Survey of the Parish of Chalfont St. Giles, which entailed racing around the parish noting the use to which the land was put. This work was put on a map and when complete was presented to Mr. Crow in recognition of his kindness to us.

Besides the valuable experience of the study great fun was had by all. Chores were shared out and the only difficulty came with rising at the unearthly hour of eight a.m. Despite the place being described as a "Doss-house" one morning at 8.40, when Commander Crow found his troops still dreaming of the delicious school meals they were missing, all eleven of us survived to tell of the truly great time had by all.

B. PULSFORD (Upper VI).

Willkommen!

THIS TERM, for the first time, we are welcoming to the School a group of young Germans from the Staatliche Oberschule at Timmendorfer Strand on the German Baltic coast. The visit has been arranged as the result of a close link which began last year between our two schools and the Girls' High School.

Since that time members of the present 3G have been corresponding with their intended exchange partners in Timmendorfer Strand, first entirely in English, but now also in some sort of German. As a result each boy has come to know his pen-friend well before actually meeting him.

The German party is led by their English Teacher, Mr. Mille, and consists of seventeen boys. After spending the last two weeks of this term with us in school they will remain in England for a further fortnight as the guests of the English families. On August 3rd, a short while after the German party, our boys, led by Mr. Street, will travel to Germany, where they will stay until September 1st. The first two weeks of their stay will be spent on holiday in the German family, and the boys will then, for the rest of the time abroad, attend school with their opposite numbers.

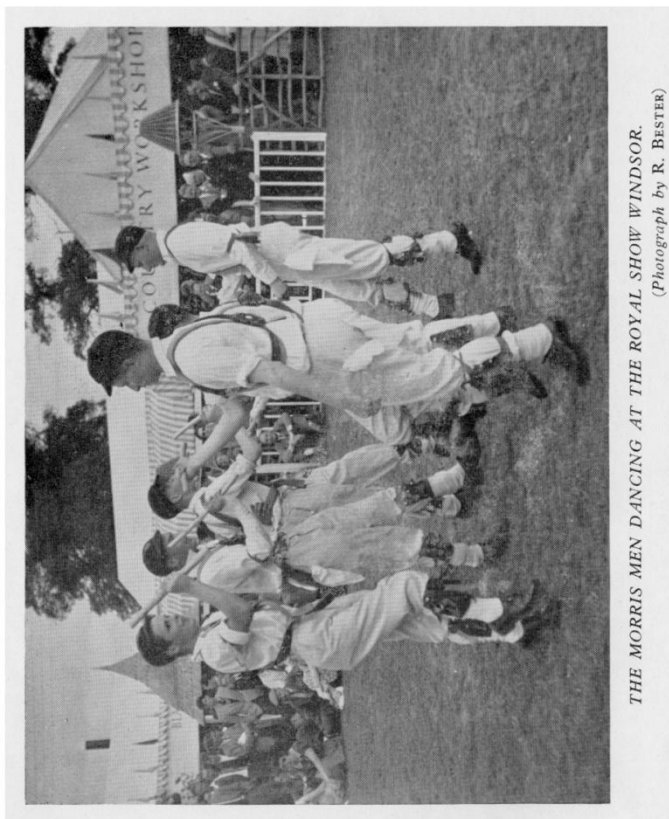
We hope that both our visitors and our own boys will gain much from this arrangement, and that those who next year take up German will further strengthen this link.

We therefore extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Mille and his pupils, and hope that they will make themselves at home among us.

G.P.S.



A SCENE FROM THE PRODUCTION OF "THE MISER." FROSINE (L) STANDS APART WHILE HARPAGON GREET'S HIS BRIDE-TO-BE, MARIANE.
(Photograph by courtesy of F. J. STANDERWICK)



THE MORRIS MEN DANCING AT THE ROYAL SHOW WINDSOR.

(Photograph by R. BESTER)

Council for Education in World Citizenship

A PARTY OF twenty-four boys (twelve from the Upper Sixth and twelve from the Lower Sixth) attended a four-days' course of lectures at the Central Hall, Westminster, from the 28th to the 31st December, last year. This series of lectures, sponsored by the C.E.W.C., the Youth Section of the United Nations' Association, had as its subject "Latin America" and the speakers were prominent individuals, expert in the various aspects of the subject. In general discussions following the lectures and in organised group-discussions all those attending took an active part and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of intellectual contact with other young people, many of whom had come from great distances.

We were extremely fortunate to be allotted five tickets for the World Youth Forum held at the Royal Festival Hall on 31st March, and those who were successful in the ballot for those tickets were very greatly impressed by the proceedings.

Two boys attended lectures on "Colour Conflict in Africa," held on the 14th and 15th April at S.P.G. House, and had the opportunity of hearing some first-hand information on the situation.

The C.E.W.C. Christmas holiday lectures and discussions this year are to take place on the 27th to 30th December and the subject is concerned with the United Nations at mid-century. This is the 13th of the series of lectures and the 10th anniversary of the First General Assembly of the United Nations, which was held in the Central Hall, Westminster; among the important speakers to address the 2,500 boys and girls, who will assemble in the same hall this year, will be the Rt. Hon. Clement Attlee, who led the British Delegation ten years ago, and Mrs. Pandit, High Commissioner for India. It is hoped that an even greater number of boys from this School will be interested this year and will ask to attend.

John Hughes, Form-Captain of the Lower Sixth, has been elected a committee-member of the Local Branch of the United Nations' Association, and will be glad to supply any additional information required.

V.H.T.

Paris—Easter, 1955

FOR A FORTNIGHT at Easter this year French studies came alive for two members of the Sixth Form. C. Elliott and myself attended a course arranged by the British Institute for first year university students and sixth-formers from Grammar and High schools from all over England. We were housed in an immense lycée with beautiful park-like grounds in one of the suburbs of Paris.

Events piled one on top of another in a crowded timetable. For lessons we were divided into small groups of about fifteen people. The mornings were partly taken up with translation, conversation, and phonetics lessons. It was in one of the conversation lessons that I had my first encounter with a tape-recording machine and the shattering experience of listening to my own voice! The remaining part of the morning was always spent listening to talks by eminent French men and women on subjects of general cultural and educational interest. Some afternoons were spent on guided tours (not strictly compulsory) of places of interest. Most of these tours ran quite smoothly apart from the one to Montmartre where a small group of us were attacked with blow-pipes and paper darts by a highly efficient gang under the leadership of an eleven or twelve-year-old. Places visited during these tours included the Louvre, Montmartre and the Sacré-Cœur, the Quartier Latin, the Palais de Justice, and the palace at Versailles. The whole of Easter Sunday was spent on a visit to the cathedral at Chartres, some 80 miles outside Paris, one of the most beautiful in France and the scene of an annual pilgrimage of French students. To hear the Easter service in a packed cathedral with the tremendous chorus of voices throbbing and echoing round was a moving experience I shall not forget for a long time.

This programme, although seemingly full, left us sufficient free time to see Paris for ourselves. The afternoons and evenings were spent most enjoyably visiting places that we personally wanted to see, or just walking around the city getting a taste of its atmosphere. The last night of the course a dance and party was held at the lycée and I am sorry to say there were many thick heads on the journey home.

This fortnight for us was unforgettable. The weather was magnificent, the food good and plentiful, the company excellent, and Paris itself enchanting.

C. SMETHURST.

Music Society

Chairman: E. Wallner; *Secretary:* F. B. Barnes; *Treasurer:* D. C. Jones.
Committee: B. Pulsford, G. Witchell, N. Hammans, R. Bester.

THIS HAS BEEN, perhaps, the most successful year, and certainly the most active, of the Society since its foundation. The greatest emphasis was without a doubt placed on record listening and during record concerts presented by various members of the Society, given twice weekly sometimes, in the Lunch Hour, over 250 records covering all classes of music were heard. What was pleasing to note was the presentation of several long-playing records of complete symphonies. These recitals were also attended by members of the High School Music Society.

During the Spring Term another new activity of the Society was introduced. Instead of the regular lunch hour concert, a "live" concert of varied piano music was given by A. Rackstraw. Although only one such concert has been held to date owing to difficulties in accommodation, we hope that next year's officials will see that this activity is continued, for such concerts can play a valuable part in the Society's activities.

By far the most successful activity of the Society has been the three Musical Evenings, to which the High School Music Society and representatives of Halidon House and the Convent were invited, and the Christmas party which was held in conjunction with the High School Music Society, in their school hall by kind permission of Miss Crawford. Perhaps the second of the two Musical Evenings was the most enjoyable and thanks must go to the School Morris Men, the School Orchestra and the Lower Sixth Dance Band for the part they played in making it so. Thanks also go to Mr. Taylor and Mr. Harries, who gave all possible help to the Society throughout the year.

This successful year was rounded off by a visit from Miss Yvonne Caterall, the well-known concert pianist, whose performance evoked long and eager applause from a large audience.

The Society has covered a wide range of music and it is hoped that the high standard will be maintained.

F.B.B.

The School Morris Men

Squire: S. Cutts; *Bagman:* A. R. Bowers; *Musician:* C. Hale.

DURING THE PAST year the Club, in spite of its small membership, has been able to dance more frequently at local functions. Last June we attended two garden fetes, one held by the Thomas Gray Parent-Teacher Association and the other by Wexham Church, where we received an enthusiastic welcome. On July 7th, the most important occasion of the year, we danced at the Royal Agricultural Show in Windsor Great Park when, during our performances, we had the honour of dancing before the Princess Royal and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. On this occasion also we made a recording for Radio Eire and appeared on Television in the afternoon. In August the Club took part in the I.C.I. Garden Party when a film was made of the occasion. In October we were invited to a Country Dance Party by the Windsor Folk Dance Society at which all spent a very enjoyable evening. Last term, in April, we gave a display of Morris Dancing at a Musical Evening held by the School Music Society. Over the past year the Squire and I have also been present at one or two meetings of the Whitchurch Morris Men of which our trainer, Mr. Doncaster, is a member.

In attending these functions we have gained experience, as a team, in dancing before the public and on July 9th, of this year, the Club is, for the first time, attending a Morris Ring* meeting in London, when we hope to have a very profitable day of dancing and to make ourselves known to the other clubs. This Summer also, we are hoping to make a tour of villages in this part of the county.

The Club, having now sixteen members, has grown slightly since last year but we should still like to increase the membership. Any boys from the Second Forms upwards, who would like to take part in this healthy and enjoyable recreation will be welcomed to the Club meetings. Those wishing to join the Club should see either Mr. Doncaster or myself.

A. R. BOWERS.

* The National Society of Morris Clubs.

Socratic Society

THE SOCIETY WAS founded in January of this year at the suggestion of Mr. B. Knight. It was he who, at a preliminary meeting, pointed out that in many Grammar Schools of this type there exist facilities for informal meetings and discussions between the Staff and Sixth Form. The idea for such a society was enthusiastically taken up by all present, and it was decided that it should be named the Socratic Society.

In the Spring Term there were five meetings of the new Society, held in the Library after school-hours. These meetings took the form of a member of Staff or Sixth Form delivering an original paper of their own choosing, followed by questions, and developing into a general discussion, punctuated by the munchings of biscuits and the clinkings of tea-cups. The subjects discussed were:

Jan. 28th.—"Should Sixth-Formers have Girls Friends?" Mr. A. Jones.

Feb. 11th.—"Is there a reason for life?" Mr. K. F. Colombo.

Feb. 24th.—"Democracy." Mr. G. R. Witchell.

Mar. 25th.—"The Aims of Drama." Mr. C. Waite.

April 4th.—An anthology, when members brought along records, poems and prose which they personally had enjoyed.

After such an encouraging start, it is hoped that Staff and future Sixth-Formers will continue their support and look forward to these most pleasant meetings.

D. W. GUEST (*Hon. Secretary*).

Sixth Form Civics Society

Chairman: E. Rayner; *Secretary:* J. Hobbs.

Committee: S. Cutts, C. Smethurst, I. G. Simmons.

This year the Society started off well, having a series of meetings during the Winter Term. However, during the Easter Term some difficulty was met in arranging meetings. The highlight of this term was a debate with the High School, the motion being "that a woman's place is in the home," with the girls successfully opposing the motion. We hope to arrange future meetings with them in the Summer Term.

The outstanding feature of the year was the way in which our Society kept the Phoenix Debating Society running. In all the meetings this year we have moved the motion or opposed it, as well as providing a large "floor" for each debate. In the Winter Term S. Cutts opposed the motion at Borlase School, Marlow. In the Spring, J. Hughes successfully moved the motion at Maidenhead C. G. S. This term S. Cutts successfully opposed the motion "that the influx of coloured colonials was a threat to internal peace," at the High School.

To all those who attended the Phoenix and our debates, contributing towards the success and livelihood of many of the meetings, we offer our thanks.

J. A. HOBBS.

Geographical and Historical Society

Chairman: I. G. Simmons; Secretary: C. Smethurst; Treasurer: R. M. Giles.

This is our second year and it has been full of interest. With a high membership and constant support we have been able to pursue a programme of the high standard set by our predecessors in office. In the field of travel, we have ranged wide, from Bath, Wells and Cheddar, to Canterbury, and favoured with good weather these outings have been successful in combining enjoyment with education. Indoors we have shown films on Africa and British History, and we held our traditional quiz with the High School. In this we were, alas, soundly beaten. Next time, however, we shall win—we are training a team of super-intellects for the contest. This term Gloucester is on our bill of fare as an expedition as well as other activities.

In all our doings we have been able to rely on Messrs. Wharmby, Purvis and Knight for support and advice and we thank them for giving so freely of their time to our enterprises.

C. SMETHURST.

Theatre and Film Society

Chairman: E. J. Rayner; Secretary: R. Giles; Treasurer: B. Pulsford.

During this, our initial year, we have tried to provide a programme which was both interesting and enjoyable. We learnt much from the lecture by Mr. Kent, of Slough Film Society, on various aspects of films and film-making. He illustrated his talk with diagrams and a film which his Society had made themselves. One evening during the Spring Term Mr. Stanford-Holme, a leading personality at Theatre Royal, Windsor, very kindly gave us a talk on actors and acting, with special reference to Windsor Theatre.

The highlight of our programme was a combined trip with the Aquarist Society. After a visit behind the scenes at Regent's Park Zoo, the party, numbering about forty, went on to Drury Lane Theatre to see *The King and I*, the story of Anna Leon-Owens in Siam. All who went enjoyed the trip very much, and it is hoped that a similar venture will be attempted in the future. This term we held a film show consisting mainly of American films, including an old-fashioned silent film of 1923, about Felix the Cat.

For the future, we hope that the Society will prosper, and that some time next year funds will permit an exhibition of a full length feature film such as "Battleship", "Potempkin", "Bicycle Thieves" or "Hamlet".

R. GILES.

The Junior Aquarist Society

Chairman: J. R. Mansfield; Secretary: J. E. Clarke; Treasurer: A. Rackstraw.

This Society was formed early this school year and rapidly grew, soon becoming the largest Society in the School. The aim of the Society is to cultivate interest in Aquatic subjects of a very wide nature. Thus the Society deals with topics which range from frogmen to minute pond-life and tropical fish, and for this reason it is affiliated to the Slough and District Aquarist Society. This arrangement has proved very satisfactory as we have found many aspects of the subject in which we can be of mutual assistance.

During the past two terms the Society has put on several film shows and has organised some outings. The first of these outings was during December when a party visited the zoo and aquarium at Regent's Park and also a tropical fish breeding establishment at Shepperton. In the Spring Term a combined party from the Aquarist and Theatre and Film Societies made a tour of London, visiting the South Bank Aquarium, Regent's Park Zoo, the Natural History Museum and finally Drury Lane Theatre. At the end of the term a highly successful evening was spent when a combined show of dissections, tropical-fish, sea-life and films were shown. To this the Slough High School and Slough Aquatic Society were invited and the latter put on a small show of their own.

Thus the Society has had a very successful first year and with the prospect of a visit from George Cansdale the future also promises well.

J. CLARKE.

The Philatelic Society

DURING THE Spring Term, 1954, two or three members of the First and Second Forms approached Mr. G. P. Sonnex, then Form-Master of 2G, about the possibility of forming a Stamp Club. He agreed to help them, and in the Club which arose he was the Treasurer. The Club, during the Spring and Summer Terms, was confined to members of Forms One and Two, but in the Autumn Term, when they became Forms Two and Three respectively, it was voted to increase membership to the Third Forms as well. Had this process continued, the Club, or as it now became known, the "Stamp Society," would have eventually had a membership drawn from the whole School. This, however, would not have been a reality until the present members of the Sixth Form had left School. With this fact in mind, Mr. Sonnex was approached with a view to increasing membership to the whole School immediately. After several preliminary meetings of Upper School members during Spring Term this year, a committee was constituted, comprising a member for the First and Second Forms (Marshall, 2A), the Third and Fourth Forms (Martin, 3E), and the Fifth and Sixth Forms (Spinks, Lower 6). Other officers elected were:

Chairman: R. Little, Lower Sixth; Treasurer: G. Hanson, Lower Sixth; Secretary: D. Clarke, Upper Sixth.

The first full committee meeting was held on 29th March this year, when it was unanimously decided to re-name the Society the "Philatelic Society." Had this unity continued throughout the meeting the members would have been able to complete the evening's business quite quickly, but, unfortunately, finance was on the agenda. There was a very long, and no less heated, discussion on membership fees, in which it was finally decided by only one vote that sixpence should be the subscription for the first term, after which the whole question of fees would be reviewed.

The Society, with a skeleton membership (as yet) has been continuing with its ambitious programme. Meetings are being held immediately after school every other Thursday, in which feature quizzes, stamp displays, short illustrated talks, and the exchange of stamps. Meetings are also held every Wednesday lunchtime in which the bargaining power of a "Twopenny Blue" or "Tete-Beche" pair are stretched to their limits, but in which the contesting parties always part good friends, pleased alike with the latest additions to their collections.

DEREK G. CLARKE.

The Printing Society

THE PAST YEAR has been a very successful one for the Printing Society. Last September a second press was purchased and both presses have been kept busy throughout the year. We have been very well supported by several clubs, societies and firms outside the School as well as by school societies and other schools. Since last September we have printed over four thousand dance and play tickets, as well as numerous visiting cards, notepaper headings and invitation cards.

I would like to take this opportunity for thanking all who have supported the Society by giving us their orders, and we hope that they will continue with their support.

F. W. HARPLEY (Secretary).

I would like to thank especially Harpley and Schuman for having given of their time so unsparingly in the service of the Society.

B. A. A. KNIGHT.

The Art Club

President: Mr. V. Evans; Secretary: G. F. Smith.

THE ART CLUB is a new Society started in the Autumn Term. It enables enthusiastic members to proceed further with their art studies. They give up their own time to attend these meetings which occasionally include films on various art subjects. The option of subjects cover a wide range, thanks to

Mr. Evans, who has been a source of inspiration and encouragement. Subjects include: clay-modelling, architecture, scraperboard, sketching and lino-cutting. The meetings are held regularly after school on Wednesdays and the Society takes its members from all branches of the School. We hope to arrange quiz contests and lectures and to visit some art exhibitions and galleries in the near future.

R. F. PHILLIPS and G. F. SMITH.

House Notes

Gray House

AT THE END of the Summer Term R. E. Faulkner (Captain) and B. A. C. Ackrell (Vice-Captain), left us, after rendering much willing and useful service to the House. We are glad to know that they are making very good progress in their studies at University. At the same time Mr. B. D. Greenslade, who had assumed temporary duties as a House-Master after the resignation of Mr. Millar last Easter, left to take up an appointment at University College, London. We are very sorry to have lost his valuable assistance.

New House Officials were elected by senior members of the School at a meeting held during the first week of the new School year. They are: Captain, D. C. Jones; Vice-Captain, A. Painter; Secretary, B. J. Garner; Committee: F. B. Barnes, A. Rackstraw, P. Anderson. Their endeavour will be to maintain the high standard reached so frequently by Gray House in the past. We welcome as new House-Masters, Mr. W. G. Street and Mr. C. A. Waite, and we shall be glad to have their advice and guidance.

Once again we became the proud possessors of the Old Paludian's Shield, presented each year to the House showing the best results in all fields of athletic endeavour. Gray has continued to achieve success in the Inter-House soccer and cricket championships, although our usual excellent display in the Cross-Country has been beaten this year. House members have held prominent positions in representative teams throughout the School, in both football and cricket, hockey and athletics, and mention must be made of D. C. Jones and J. Mansfield, who have become Captains of School cricket and athletics respectively. Members of the House are taking an active interest in various other school activities and societies.

Gray has also been well represented in the outside events, in which the School has taken part. In the County Sports, D. C. Jones, B. A. C. Ackrell, D. Cullimore and A. Painter were all well placed in their respective events, whilst we aspired to the greatest heights of School Athletics by sending D. C. Jones, B. A. C. Ackrell, and D. Cullimore to the All-England School Sports held last year at Ashington, in Northumberland. Congratulations must go to D. C. Jones again, who was placed eighth in the javelin event.

In conclusion, it is important that every member of the House throughout the School should strive to maintain the high standard of achievement that Gray House has for so long attained. Drawing inspiration from Gray himself, we will look forward to renewed success in the coming years:

"Thus rack the joints, thus fire the veins,
That every labouring sinew strain
In hope, to prolong our happiest now."

B. JARDINE GARNER (*Hon. Secretary*).

Hampden House

Captain: E. Wallner; *Vice-Captain:* B. Thorpe; *Secretary:* B. Rees.

UNFORTUNATELY, HAMPDEN'S prowess in the realms of sport has suffered considerably due to such notable athletes as D. Delaney, J. Gale, W. Birnage, E. Bevan and Draper having left the School. In the Junior School the House is more than holding its own and in the future we expect to hear mentioned such names as D. G. Robinson, J. Field, M. Head and W. D. Thomas. Among the seniors J. Hinds and E. Wallner played for the football

1st XI and A. Smith for the 1st XI hockey team. B. Thorpe won the A.A.A. Bucks Junior shot with a putt of 42ft. 8½in., and B. Rees was 2nd in the Four Counties Swimming Gala. One of the newest activities is the Sixth Form Band, which was formed by E. Robinson and now contains members from many other Forms and Houses. The House is well represented on committees, providing the chairman of both the Music and Geographical and Historical Societies.

Although achievements in the past year have been only moderate, we can look forward optimistically to the future.

B. REES (*Secretary*).

Herschel House

Captain: B. Cleverley; *Vice-Captain:* J. Hobbs; *Secretary:* J. Jordan; *Committee:* L. Glanville, J. Morgan.

THIS HAS BEEN an outstanding year for Herschel in every department. In athletics we have carried on the good work of last year and gained considerable success. We were remarkably well represented in all sports and have contributed greatly to the social and cultural activities of the School.

We can pride ourselves on bringing a social aspect into the normal routine of the House. This can be accounted for by an inter-House social which was held at the High School for Girls on May 3rd. The occasion was well attended by senior members who enjoyed themselves immensely. It is hoped to hold a return social evening here before the conclusion of the Summer Term.

From the sports which have been held to date, the results have been most heartening and reflect creditably on the spirit prevalent in the house. Prominent in our list of athletic successes have been: B. Cleverley, J. Hobbs, J. Alder, M. Flynn, A. Bester and A. Memmott in Class I; A. Henry, R. Bray and P. Eyre in Class II, with A. Alderman and R. Thomas prominent in Class III.

Although our athletic strength is fairly evenly distributed throughout the different classes a little more enthusiasm in Class II would be appreciated. This is of course with the notable exception of the valiant Bray and Henry.

In the gruelling cross-country events held during the term we returned first place in all events; that is, Seniors (in which we had 7 of the first 11 places), Fourth Forms and Junior.

We also supplied six of the School cross-country team.

In the only inter-House football matches held we returned first place in the First Forms and second place in the Second Forms.

In out of School events we have had very good representation. B. Cleverley, P. R. Jones and J. Morgan were honoured last year by being selected to take part in the County Sports, and hope to achieve the same honour this year with the addition of J. Hobbs. J. Jordan was selected to play for Bucks C.C.C. Colts, and this year B. Thomas has been selected to swim for Slough.

One of our enthusiastic committee, J. Hobbs, undertook to instruct and train the victorious Intermediate XI who gained greatly from his experience and inspiration. Under his unerring guidance they went from success to success, becoming league champions and cup finalists.

However, despite the excellent results we have returned during the past year, we must not rest on our laurels but strive for even better achievements (and the winning of that glorious House Shield) in the future.

J. J. JORDAN (*Hon. Secretary*).

Milton House

House Captain: G. Witchell; *Vice-Captain:* C. Smethurst; *Secretary:* E. Rayner; *Committee:* B. Pulsford, J. Barnes.

MILTON HAS been fortunate in having an outstandingly strong senior representation. We have supplied the School Captain, Witchell, the Vice-Captain, Smethurst and fourteen of the School's prefects.

At a meeting of the senior members of the House early in the year the above-named officers were elected to replace those who left School last Summer.

In sport, it was the senior part of the House that again took the honours. Pulsford captained the First Eleven football team which included three other Miltonians in its ranks—Witchell, Hines and Painter (S.). Rayner led the first eleven hockey side which also contained Cutts, Giles (R.), Hyde and Deuchar from the House. As for athletics and cricket, we had to be content with the next best thing—the Vice-Captains: Stroud and Goldfine respectively. Hines, Painter (S.) and Parsons also played regularly for the cricket team. Stroud, Willis and Barnes (J.) have already shown good work in athletics, especially the two former, who took the first two places in the senior cross-country race. We can hope that on Sports Day we may rise out of the doldrums in which our athletic efforts have so long remained.

Lower down in the School, the record is not quite so imposing, although we were fully represented in both the senior league and intermediate football elevens. In athletics we are still lamentably weak, especially in Class II where interest in the House and its activities seems to be seriously waning. The enthusiasm and good work of the seniors and younger boys must be instilled into the middle school if Milton is ever to become a really first-class House.

As many of the leading members of the House will be leaving in July, Milton will not only have to strengthen its weak points, but also look to the laurels it has already gained.

EDWARD J. RAYNER (*Secretary*).

Games and Athletics

Football

THE FIRST ELEVEN

WE STARTED the season with a record of two and a half years without defeat at the hands—or feet—of another school: it was something of a relief when Stode's beat us in October, for records, like cups, rarely bring out the best football in a team. "Play to win" is indeed the watchword for any game, but the accent must be on "Play"—Nerves, gamesmanship, spoiling tactics—these have no place in school football. Every match is a separate problem, a sporting contest to be won by the better side—no suppressed worries about points, pots or positions. Cup and knock-out competitions can be fun, especially at the season's end; but the over-all picture must be of players living the old ideal—playing the game to the utmost of ability and enthusiasm for the sake of the team and the game.

Several stalwarts left us last summer; R. Gale and B. Ackrell are already playing for the University team at Bristol, and many familiar names figure in local amateur teams—Congratulations!

It took some time to find a satisfactory new combination, but this was achieved, and the results of a good season's football were: Won 10, Lost 5, Drawn 1.

B. Pulsford and D. C. Jones were the new Captain and Vice-Captain, and they set an excellent example. Pulsford is built on generous lines, to make him a really powerful defender, but speedy and resourceful, too; Jones was a thrusting centre-forward, with a splendid shot on the turn.

In goal, J. Hinds was very efficient and handled a greasy ball particularly well. E. Wallner took his turn as keeper and was an immediate success, venturesome and agile. E. Thompson developed into a most determined and effective back, whilst L. Glanville was a strong centre-half, hard-tackling and hard-headed. W. Hines again plunged into the fray with abandon; B. Garner performed nobly; P. R. Jones displayed devastating power in the tackle; and F. Barnes came out of his shell and was perhaps the most improved player in the side. S. Painter made a forceful and intelligent winger, and inside-forwards J. Jordan, C. Symons and A. Rackstraw provided the necessary skill and dash; G. Witchell lay in wait as ever on the left wing for the chance to unleash his thunderbolt.

A good side, which settled down to play the hard and intelligent football always expected from our 1st XI.

THE SECOND ELEVEN

A most successful season was enjoyed, with a score of 10 won, 1 lost.

Of the regular members of the side, J. Roberts played very coolly and capably in goal, and J. Hogg and J. Hobbs were a notably solid and sound pair of backs, lacking only some speed in recovery. C. Symons, P. Jones, A. Rackstraw and E. Wallner earned both 1st and 2nd spurs. L. Goldfine played with good judgement, and B. Parsons was a bundle of enthusiasm at all times. In the forward-line J. Wynne-Jones made steady progress, J. Alder was very keen, and R. Henry proved very difficult to stop once he burst away. J. Glanville played neat football and P. Anderson did his full share of work.

Full praise to an eleven that kept well together, helping the 1st XI when necessary, and meanwhile scoring a steady succession of well-earned victories.

THE UNDER 15 ELEVEN

A successful, though frustrating, season for teams of genuine enthusiasts—Won 10, lost 1, drawn 1. The habit has grown in the district of crowding League and Cup matches into the light evenings in September and at season's end. The result is a crazy agglomeration of fixtures within the narrow compass of a week or so near Easter, militating against pleasurable and profitable football.

A further difficulty lies in the curious alteration of the age limit for the Rebel Shield competition, so that a team built up by Christmas becomes disjointed and unsettled through enforced changes.

However, there were some very good games, and a great deal of talent was displayed. The Rebel Shield was won, though the League Championship went, somewhat ironically, to the school playing the most games.

At centre-half D. Middleton was unquestionably the leader and pivot of the team; he worked with tremendous enthusiasm and skill and well deserved his County and District recognition. D. Draper, a powerful player of the greatest promise, and J. Clark, a splendid combination of strength and finesse, completed an outstanding half-back line. They also, with Toogood, Barker, Stewart and Holliday, secured representative honours. J. Barker took his goal-keeping seriously and was a safe and resourceful defender. I. Stewart, as always, gave of his notable best and C. Toogood at left-back went from strength to strength. Defence left us with few problems; in the second half of the season we had further excellent players in J. Bownass, J. O'Donoghue, K. Howard and J. Mansfield. In the forward line R. Hannam brought weight and dash to the right wing—a formidable winger when in full flight. A. Southam as Captain, played with the utmost enthusiasm and considerable skill at inside-right, and, also inside, N. Ward consolidated his position as a really good natural footballer. D. T. Williams worked hard and usefully on the left wing, improving with every game. At centre G. Lewis became the true spearhead of the attack—if he continues to develop he will be of immense service in senior football. M. Holliday also played well in this position. Great help and effort came from J. Freer, J. Wickham and D. Wilcox.

We look forward to seeing many of these boys maintaining their good spirit and skill in the 1st and 2nd elevens to come.

THE UNDER 13 ELEVEN

The following report of the Junior activities comes from J. Hobbs, whose interest and efforts in coaching the Intermediate Team outside school hours deserve great credit and sincerest thanks. These are extended also to E. Wallner, F. Barnes and L. Glanville; such help from sixth formers is most welcome and appreciated.

The team showed great promise for the future. After a somewhat shaky start and several changes, the team settled down to play neat, constructive football, by which they won the Championship Cup and were finalists for the Lightfoot Cup.

In defence the outstanding player was K. Antill, who set an example of hard work and splendid covering. W. Picton and P. Robinson completed the half-back line, all three playing skilful and consistent football. At back D. Thomas was a fast and sturdy defender, needing only to improve his kicking.

J. Smith, right-back, made a remarkable improvement during the season, as did R. Taylor in goal. This defence became thoroughly dependable.

The forwards showed good speed and combination, and linked up well with the defence. R. Thomas, Captain, was constantly spurring his team to greater efforts. He and C. May, on the opposite wing, were both fast and showed great ball control; they made many chances for their insides. M. Portsmouth was a good, bustling opportunistic centre-forward, whilst R. Stevens and R. Dearlove were outstanding. They controlled and used the ball well, and their heading and shooting were very accurate. Congratulations go also to the great triers, Hill, Butler, Willans, Giles, Freeman, Martin, Almond and D. Robinson.

The last week of the season was desperately crowded, the team winning four games and losing one in the space of seven days. In the Lightfoot Cup final they played splendid football, losing in extra time, 3-4, to their heavier opponents. Congratulations to both teams, and in particular, of course, to Langley, the winners.

The prospects for next season seem very bright; three of the team will still be of the right age, and there are many more boys showing the greatest promise; for example, in addition to others already mentioned, K. Wallis, G. Evans, J. Eyre, A. Gibson and T. Flower.

HOUSE FOOTBALL

The final positions were: 1st: Herschel, 16 points; 2nd: Milton and Hampden, 14 points; 4th: Gray, 11 points.

SCHOOL SIX-A-SIDE TOURNEY

A fine day favoured the traditional Football Finale, and the usual hard tussles and surprises resulted. F. Barnes set a cracking pace for his team in the Senior Sixes, and, backing him nobly, they won the event, beating C. Symons's VI. Team: F. Barnes, B. Cleverley, A. Southam, B. Parsons, M. Flynn and J. Pywell.

In the Junior section, J. Clark's VI, having negotiated the hurdle of D. Draper, disposed of M. Holliday's VI in the final. Team: J. Clarke, C. May, J. Diment, R. Holdford, J. Oliver and L. Felix.

And so to next September.

Hockey, 1955

ALTHOUGH the wretched weather played havoc with fixtures, this year's side more than maintained the steady improvement which has been taking place in the teams since the game was reinstated in the School four years ago.

Individual members played intelligent and forceful hockey, and together, the team provided worthy opposition for all their opponents, including teams from Army and R.A.F. Units. The make-up of the side was varied indeed, comprising seven who play regularly for clubs, two First Eleven footballers and two who play only for the School team.

In goal, A. Jones, though often unorthodox, was nevertheless very effective. Experienced full-backs E. Rayner and R. York provided a solid backbone to the team, and later in the season, were both selected for the Bucks County Colts side. Wing-halves G. Hanson and A. Smith gave fine displays in attack and defence, while S. Cutts brought an enthusiasm which made him seem all over the field at once. On the wings were M. Deuchar and R. Giles, both of whom made many solo runs and fed accurate centres into the circle. J. Jordan, at inside left, battered his way through many a bewildered defence and S. Hyde, the inside right, showed skill and determination. A. Rackstraw, who is a very promising hockey-player indeed, led the attack with clever stickwork and rocketed many goals into the net. Others who performed nobly when called upon were: L. Goldfine, J. Barnes, K. Melia, J. Morgan, J. Mansfield, I. Simmons, B. Pulsford and C. Giles. 12 matches were played: 5 were won, 1 drawn and 6 lost—quite a comforting record!

Rugby

THIS SEASON has shown a remarkable improvement in the fortunes of the Rugby Club. Last season we held a few practices and played only one 15-a-side game, in connection with the Technical School. This season, however, more practices have been held and a XV has been fielded six times.

Three times our opponents have been the Technical School. We opened the season against them with a strong team captained by S. T. Painter. We kicked off against a more experienced side with some forebodings, but within a minute we had scored after a foot-rush led by L. C. Glanville. We won 45-0. Somewhat later in the season a weaker team (due to football and 'flu) just beat the Tech. (playing a member of staff) by 18-14. The third time, in March, we lost by 12-18. We played Windsor C.B.S. twice. Under ideal conditions we beat their 3rd XV by 26-6, but floundering in a sea of sticky Windsor mud on Nov. 23rd we lost to their 2nd XV by 15-0. We also played one game against a heavier but less experienced Maidenhead side, in a cow-pasture field. Despite the natural hazards we won by 22-0. Throughout the season the three-quarter line has shown the most promise, the normal members being A. S. Painter, B. Cleverley, S. T. Painter and R. Colgate. These members accounted for most of our tries. B. Richardson played well in the difficult position of fly-half. The forwards gave the most trouble, and in the loose did not appear fast enough on the ball. In the tight, however, a varying pack shoved well and R. Ayling deserves mention for his regular hooking and leading of the pack. R. Grier was an excellent tackler while B. Pulsford, L. Glanville, J. Pywell and B. Long also stood out.

To those whose mud-wallowing rivalled that of a hippopotamus thanks are given for their energy and keenness and, above all, in this most gentlemanly of sports, their cheerful, sporting spirit.

I.G.S. (Secretary).

Cross Country

SENIORS

THIS YEAR found a greater number of enthusiasts than usual willing to participate in this most gruelling of sports in their Games Periods. However, despite an intensive training programme, the team suffered defeat in all three matches. This was due to lack of support from the Sixth Form, which, as this is mainly a Sixth Form sport in other schools, resulted in most of the team running against much older opponents.

The feature of the season was the outstanding running of J. D. Willis, who overcame his age handicap to finish 7th, 5th, and 2nd in his three races. Stroud always ran well and finished high in the placings, while the captain did his best.

Those who preferred the hazards of Mr. Cornish's Farm to the comparative safety of the School field were: J. R. Mansfield (Captain), A. G. Stroud, B. Richardson, J. D. Willis, M. Flynn, C. J. Williams, A. Memmott, A. Webb, R. Bester and R. Burrows.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND JUNIORS

An encouraging feature this year has been the keenness of a number of junior boys, many of whom ran regularly each week after school throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms. As a result the School made a good showing in the Slough and District Race held at Eton on Saturday, 26th March. We put in two junior teams and one senior, and all boys ran with determination on a very boggy course. The junior team did well to come second, nine points behind Haymill. D. Thomas, lying 8th, was first home for the School. In the senior race our team came 4th.

The teams were: 1st Junior—D. Thomas, P. Robinson, B. Bennett, C. Moreby, J. Eyre, R. Stevens. 2nd Junior—R. Thomas, D. Robinson, K. Lane, D. Painter, B. Hill, A. Green. Senior—A. Henry, R. Burrows, J. Barker, M. Holliday, R. Hannam, P. Eyre.

House Cross-country Positions:

1. Herschel, 16 points; 2. Milton and Hampden, 14 points; 4. Gray, 11 points.

Cricket, 1954

THE THREE MAIN matches of the season resulted in a loss against the parents and wins against the Old Paludians and the Staff.

The parents had their strongest team yet. Mr. Lewis won the toss and put the School in to bat. They were soon in trouble due to excellent bowling by Messrs. Evans and Dilnot and were four wickets down with only 14 runs on the board. But for good batting by A. Rackstraw, R. Gale and L. Goldfine the score would not even have reached the reasonable total of 54. Mr. Bowers gave his usual trouble to the School bowlers. Aptly aided by Messrs. Clegg and Cordery the parents made the necessary runs for the loss of only 3 wickets, D. C. Jones being the only worry to them.

In the second match the Old Paludians batted first and made 67. This was largely due to attacking batting by Mr. Mills and H. Jones. J. Jordan and R. Gale bowled well for the School and the batsmen, especially A. Rackstraw and B. Ackrell, were too strong for the Old Boys and led to a victory by 6 wickets.

The staff turned out looking as athletic as usual and after Mr. Mills had won the toss proceeded to attack the School batting to the best of their ability. By tea the School had made 115 for 7 of which B. Ackrell scored 50. At this score a declaration was made and the staff, fortified by a meal, returned to answer the challenge. They did this to the tune of 28 all out, an innings in which Mr. Sonnex did what many of his colleagues hoped to do in hitting his first ball to leg for six.

D.C.J.

FIRST ELEVEN, 1955.

Captain: D. C. Jones; *Vice-Captain:* L. J. Goldfine.

The following have played: D. C. Jones, L. J. Goldfine, J. J. Jordan, A. Rackstraw, J. W. J. Hines, S. Painter, B. Parsons, J. Morgan, E. Thompson, C. Symons, A. Buckland, J. Wynne-Jones and P. R. Jones.

Only four members were available from last year and therefore much new talent was needed.

The first game of the season was a new fixture against Slough C.C. Wednesday XI. This resulted in a draw but the School's batting, particularly that of A. Rackstraw and J. Jordan, was very promising.

Against Amersham G.S. the School batted first and were out for an extremely low total, only J. Hines and J. Jordan making reasonable scores, and seven of the side being out for ducks. The fast bowling of D. C. Jones and J. Jordan had Amersham in difficulties but even so they just managed to win by one wicket.

The School's batting had not improved in the next match against Ashford. After bowling Ashford out for 38, a feat due mainly to L. Goldfine and A. Buckland, the School were unable to score the runs for victory.

The following Saturday the game with Slough C.C. 3rd XI was drawn as was the next match against Wycombe R.G.S. In the latter the School put up a much better performance than before and there was a long confident stand between J. Wynne-Jones and J. Jordan.

The first win was against Windsor C.B.S. The fast attack of S. Painter and J. Jordan had Windsor all out for 51. The School replied with 54 for 6, of which E. Thompson made a forceful 19 not out.

The fielding is, at the moment, only average, but it is gradually improving.

RESULTS

School 85 for 6 (A. Rackstraw 34, J. Jordan 28); Slough Wednesday 144 for 8, Ashford C.G.S. 38 (L. Goldfine 4 for 9, A. Buckland 4 for 21); School 34, School 77 for 7 (J. Jordan 22); Slough 3rd XI 59 for 9, Wycombe R.G.S. 118 for 8 (L. Goldfine 4 for 31); School 55 for 3 (J. Wynne-Jones 30 not out); Windsor 51 (J. Jordan 6 for 25, S. Painter 4 for 24); School 54 for 6 (E. Thompson 19 not out); Strode School, Egham 85 for 9; School 24.

D.C.J.

Swimming

THIS YEAR'S senior team did very well at the Slough Schools Gala in December. Before the Gala, there seemed very little chance of getting near to the top, but once again we very nearly beat the champions, William Penn. Our team managed to gain 30 points, only 2 points behind the winners and 20 points ahead of the Technical School.

B. A. Thomas was 1st in the Freestyle and Diving; J. Bambrough was 2nd in the Diving and 3rd in the Freestyle; while K. Mansfield was 2nd in the Breast-stroke. N. Gillard, P. R. Thomas and C. Rees contributed their shares in gaining 1st place in the Medley team race and 2nd place in the Freestyle Relay.

We were not so fortunate in the Intermediate Gala in May. Our team—T. Crockford, R. Hill, R. Robinson, R. Stevens and A. Watson—made gallant efforts but the only points gained were for 3rd place in the team race and for R. Hill's 4th place in both the Breast-stroke Style event and the Breast-stroke race.

Rowing Club

DURING THE past year certain members of the Fifth and Sixth Forms have, with the co-operation of the Eton Excelsior Rowing Club, been learning to row. This has been done during the ordinary games periods under the able direction of Mr. Colombo. As a great deal of experience is necessary for rowing in the lighter boats, only the heavier practice boats have been used so far. Next school year, as several members will have left, there will be vacancies to be filled. This entails joining the E.E.R.C. as a junior member at a cost of one guinea. We are very grateful to the E.E.R.C. for the use of their boats, premises, and equipment.

R.G.S.

Gymnastics

The gymnastics team again provided the finale to the School Gymnastics display last year, and the presence of several newcomers to the team showed promise for the future. The day finished with the presentation of the David Luck Cup to A. Painter, who won it from B. Thorpe by only $\frac{1}{2}$ point after an extremely close competition.

Another match with Eton College was arranged, but this, unfortunately, had to be cancelled because there was insufficient time for practices, and because of impending examinations.

Since Christmas practices have been regularly attended (much to the chagrin of the Badminton Club) and B. Cleverley and L. Glanville gave a useful demonstration of their abilities during a Herschel House Social at the High School.

The team is now getting together for this year's display, which will, I am sorry to say, be Mr. Luck's last before he retires.

We sincerely hope that he will enjoy his retirement as much as we have enjoyed being coached by him in the past years.

A.S.P.

The Badminton Club

Captain: A. Rackstraw; *Secretary:* R. M. York; *Treasurer:* E. J. Rayner.

The club once again had a most enjoyable season and many good games were had by all. With finances at an unusually high level, we acquired two rackets and repainted the court.

The club's team succeeded in establishing itself as the leading Junior Six in the district. In fact, in our record of only one defeat, many senior teams were also beaten. The first pair continued their fantastic run of three years without a defeat. The second pair only lost two games in the season and the less experienced third pair gave fine performances. Good matches are becoming

increasingly difficult to obtain, but next year the club hopes to play top local senior clubs.

As three regular team members are leaving, next season's side will have to work hard to maintain the excellent record.

The team was: First Pair, A. Rackstraw and R. M. York; Second Pair: E. J. Rayner and M. Spinks; Third Pair: A. Painter and J. Morgan.

All-England Sports, 1954

THE FOLLOWING boys were picked to represent Bucks, and we heartily congratulate them on their high standard of performance and on the great honour brought to themselves and their School:-

D. C. Jones, Senior Javelin; D. Cullimore, Senior Long Jump; B. Ackrell, Senior 220 yds.; M. Deuchar, Junior 440 yds.

County Sports, 1954

SENIORS

100 Yards—B. Ackrell, 3rd; R. Gale, 4th.
220 Yards—B. Ackrell, 1st; R. Gale, 3rd.
440 Yards—D. Cullimore, 2nd.
880 Yards—R. Faulkner, 2nd.
Mile—J. Gale, 3rd.
High Jump—A. Painter, 2nd.
Long Jump—D. Cullimore, 1st, 20ft. 5in. (New Record); R. Faulkner, 2nd.
Javelin—D. C. Jones, 1st (141ft.); A. Painter, 3rd.
Shot—D. C. Jones, 2nd.

This team won the Cup for their age group.

INTERMEDIATES

High Jump—J. Morgan, 2nd.
Discus—B. Cleverley, 2nd.
Javelin—B. Chase, 3rd.
Shot—E. V. Bevan, 1st.

JUNIORS

440 Yards—M. Deuchar, 1st; J. Willis, 3rd.

District Sports, 1954

15-17 YEARS

220 Yards—S. Watson, 3rd.
440 Yards—P. Wynne-Jones, 3rd; D. Delaney, 4th.
880 Yards—S. Watson, 1st; B. Richardson, 3rd.
Mile—D. Delaney, 1st; B. Gilham, 3rd.
High Jump—J. Morgan, 1st; J. Little, 2nd.
Long Jump—D. Daly, 1st; J. Morgan, 2nd.
Shot—E. V. Bevan, 1st; B. Thorp, 2nd.
Discus—E. V. Bevan, 1st (135ft. 11in.—New Record); B. Cleverley, 2nd.
Javelin—B. Chase, 2nd; B. Cleverley, 3rd.

13-15 YEARS

100 Yards—J. Willis, 4th.
220 Yards—M. Deuchar, 1st; D. Draper, 3rd.
440 Yards—M. Deuchar, 1st; J. Willis, 2nd.
Relay Team—M. Deuchar, D. Draper, J. Willis, A. Memmott, 1st.
Long Jump—A. Memmott, 2nd.
Shot—A. Memmott, 2nd.
Javelin—J. Pywell, 2nd; P. R. Jones, 4th.

11-13 YEARS

High Jump—M. F. Holliday, 1st.

School Sports, 1955

This season the organisers of the Sports have been faced with unusual difficulties, for only half the field was in a fit state to be used for a track, so that instead of a $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile circuit, we had to be content with the rather awkward size of one-sixth of a mile, which, being on so much of a curve, did not encourage fast times. Also, in the absence of a groundsman, all the surveying and marking out—and there is much work here—had to be done by mathematicians of the Sixth Form under the direction of Mr. Dickinson. We should be most grateful to these boys, particularly J. Barnes, R. Scott, M. Thurgood and A. Tulip for doing the job so efficiently.

The actual Sports Day was held on Monday, 13th June. We were fortunate in having a sunny afternoon and in being able to welcome to our midst Alderman A. Pusey, the Mayor of Slough, who kindly consented to present the certificates and trophies.

The outstanding achievements were all in the field events, where four records were broken. In Class I Discus both B. Cleverley and B. Thorp beat the existing record, and D. C. Jones threw the cricket ball 5ft. further than the previous best throw. In Class II D. C. Middleton achieved a double success in establishing new records for both the Javelin and Cricket Ball. The best performance in the track events was J. Mansfield's 880 yds. in 2min. 9.5secs., which equalled the record.

G—Gray; Ha—Hampden; He—Herschel; M—Milton)

CLASS III

100 Yards [Record (1948): 11. 9 sec.]—1. Alderman, A. (He); 2. Thomas, R. (He); 3. Stevens, R. (G); 4. Froggatt (Ha). Time: 12.55 sec.
220 Yards [Record (1949): 27.5 sec.]—1. Thomas, R. (He); 2. Alderman, A. (He); 3. Stevens, R. (G); 4. Hardy, W. (Ha). Time: 28.65 sec.
Long Jump [Record (1948): 15ft. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.]—1. May, C. J. (M); 2. Thomas, R. (He); 3. Lane, K. M. (He); 4. Head, M. S. (Ha). Distance: 13ft. 7in.
High Jump [Record (1951): 4ft. 5in.]—1. Field, J. W. (Ha); 2. Stevens, R. (G); 3. Head, M. S. (Ha); 4. Lane, K. M. (He). Height: 4ft. 1in.
Hop, Step and Jump [Record (1950): 30ft. 3in.]—1. Thomas, R. (He); 2. Alderman, A. (He); 3. Head, M. (Ha); 4. Middleton, P. (G). Distance: 29ft. 10in.
Putting the Shot [Record (1951): 44ft. 2in.]—1. Thomas, R. (He); 2. Dunn, A. (G); 3. Murphy, R. (He); 4. Field, J. (Ha). Distance: 32ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
Throwing Cricket Ball [Record (1953): 64yds. 2in.]—1. Robinson, P. D. (G); 2. Robinson, D. G. (Ha); 3. May, C. J. (M.); 4. Spooner, P. R. (M). Distance: 59yds. 2ft. 10in.
Relay—1. Herschel, 2. Gray, 3. Milton, Hampden disqualified.
Winning team: Thomas, R., Alderman, A., Lane, K., Gibson, T.

CLASS II

100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.6 sec.]—1. Burrows, R. (G); 2. Mansfield, K. (G); 3. Henry, A. (He); 4. O'Donoghue, C. O. (He). Time: 12 sec.
220 Yards [Record (1948): 25.4 sec.]—1. Burrows, R. (G); 2. Henry, A. (He); 3. Williams, D. (He); 4. Holliday, M. (M). Time: 27.1 sec.
440 Yards [Record (1953): 60.9 sec.]—1. Henry, A. (He); 2. Burrows, R. G. (G); 3. Cook, M. D. (G); 4. Deuchar, A. B. M. (M). Time: 63.3 sec.
880 Yards [Record (1951): 2 mins. 27.2 sec.]—1. Henry, A. (He); 2. Burrows, R. G. (G); 3. Middleton, D. C. (G); 4. Holliday, M. (M). Time: 2 mins. 35 sec.
Long Jump [Record (1949): 17ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.]—1. Henry, A. (He); 2. Hudson, A. (G), and Holliday, M. (M); 4. Middleton, D. C. (G). Distance: 15ft. 5in.

High Jump [Record (1953): 4ft. 9in.]—1. Hannam, R. J. (Ha); 2. Hudson, A. (G); 3. O'Donghue, C. E. (He); 4. Holliday, M. (M). Height: 4ft. 7in.
 Throwing Javelin [Record (1954): 127ft.]—1. Middleton, D. (G); 2. Williams, A. (G); 3. Daly, J. (Ha); 4. Mansfield, K. (G). Distance: 130ft. 8in.
NEW RECORD.
 Throwing Discus [Record (1951): 111ft. 4in.]—1. Henry, A. (He); 2. Holliday, M. (M); 3. Middleton, D. (G); 4. Williams, A. (G). Distance: 97ft. 0½in.
 Putting the Shot [Record (1953): 52ft. 1in.]—1. Middleton, D. (G); 2. Henry, A. (He); 3. Enterkin, H. (He); 4. Holliday, M. (M). Distance: 45ft.
 Throwing Cricket Ball [Record (1952): 72yds. 1ft. 8in.]—1. Middleton, D. C. (G); 2. Williams, A. (G); 3. Henry, A. E. (He); 4. Daly, J. D. (Ha). Distance: 78yds. 0ft. 9in. **NEW RECORD.**
 Relay—1. Gray, 2. Herschel, Milton disqualified.
 Winning team: Burrows, R., Middleton, D., Mansfield, K., Cook, M.

CLASS I

100 Yards [Record (1951): 10.6 sec.]—1. Mansfield, J. (G); 2. Alder, J. (He) and Cleverley, B. (He); 4. Colgate, R. (He). Time: 11.4 sec.
 220 Yards [Record (1951): 23.75 sec.]—1. Mansfield, J. (G); 2. Willis, J. (M); 3. Alder, J. (He); 4. Painter, A. (G). Time: 25.15 sec.
 440 Yards [Record (1954): 55.4 sec.]—1. Mansfield, J. R. (G); 2. Stroud, A. G. (M); 3. Willis, J. (M); 4. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M). Time: 56.3 sec.
 880 Yards [Record (1949): 2 mins. 9.5 sec.]—1. Mansfield, J. R. (G); 2. Stroud, A. G. (M); 3. Willis, J. (M); 4. Bester, R. (He). Time: 2 mins. 9.5 sec.
 Mile [Record (1949): 4 mins. 50.3 sec.]—1. Mansfield, J. R. (G); 2. Stroud, A. G. (M); 3. Willis, J. (M); 4. Bester, R. (He). Time: 4 mins. 56.2 sec.
 Long Jump [Record (1944): 20ft. 10in.]—1. Painter, A. S. (G); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Memmott, A. (He); 4. Little, J. R. G. (He). Distance: 18ft. 8in.
 High Jump [Record (1937): 5ft. 6in.]—1. Painter, A. S. (G); 2. Morgan, J. E. (He); 3. Smethurst, C. (M); 4. Cleverley, B. (He). Height: 5ft. 2in.
 Throwing Javelin [Record (1951): 153ft. 3½in.]—1. Jones, D. C. (G); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Painter, A. (G); 4. Thorp, B. (Ha). Distance: 138ft. 1½in.
 Throwing Discus [Record (1954): 114ft. 9in.]—1. Cleverley, B. (He); 2. Thorp, B. (Ha); 3. Barnes, J. (M); 4. Hobbs, J. (He). Distance: 121ft. 8in. **NEW RECORD.**
 Putting the Shot [Record (1943): 50ft. 10in.]—1. Cleverley, B. (He); 2. Thorp, B. (Ha); 3. Hobbs, J. (He); 4. Thomas, B. (He). Distance: 49ft. 8½in.
 Throwing Cricket Ball [Record (1954): 96yds. 2ft. 7in.]—1. Jones, D. C. (G); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Jordan, J. (He); 4. Thorp, B. (Ha). Distance: 101yds. 2ft. 0in. **NEW RECORD.**
 Relay—1. Gray, 2. Herschel, 3. Milton, 4. Hampden. Time:
 Winning team: Mansfield, K., Pywell, J., Painter, A., Anderson, P.

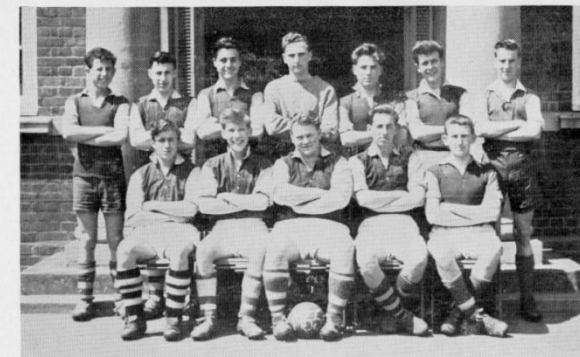
OPEN EVENT

Mile Handicap [Record (1954): 4 mins. 55.9 sec.]—1. May C.; 2. Robinson, P.; 3. Head, M.; 4. Hill, R. Time: 4 mins. 58.8 secs.
 HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP. (Head Master's Cup)—1. Herschel, 247 pts.; 2. Gray, 238½ pts.; 3. Milton, 113½ pts.; 4. Hampden, 98 pts.
 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP (Class 1) (Johnson Cup)—1. Mansfield, J. (G) 25 pts.; 2. Cleverley, B. (He) 22½ pts.; 3. Painter, A. (G) 13 pts.; 4. Jones, D. (G) 10 pts.
 HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED FOR HOUSE (Class 2) (Smith Cup)—1. Henry, A. (He) 38 pts.; 2. Middleton, D. (G) 27 pts.; 3. Burrows, R. (G) 19 pts.; 4. M. Holliday (M) 18½ pts.
 HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED FOR HOUSE (Class 3) (Steil Cup)—1. Thomas, R. (He) 26 pts.; 2. A. Alderman (He) 13 pts.; 3. May, C. (M), Stevens, R. (G) 11 pts.



CRICKET 1st XI

Back Row, left to right—A. Buckland, E. Thompson, J. Wynne-Jones, S. Painter, C. Symons, B. Parsons.
 Front Row, left to right—J. Jordan, A. Rackstraw, D. C. Jones (Capt.), L. Goldfine, J. Hines.



FOOTBALL 1st XI

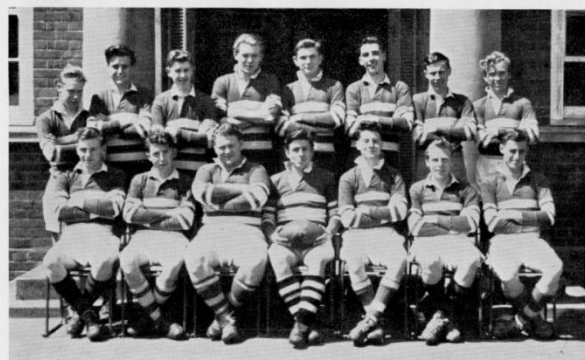
Back Row, left to right—E. Thompson, F. B. Barnes, L. Glanville, E. Wallner, P. R. Jones, B. Garner C. Symons.
 Front Row, left to right—S. Painter, J. Hines, B. Pulsford (Capt.), D. C. Jones, G. Witchell.



HOCKEY XI

Back Row, left to right—A. Smith, S. Hyde, M. Deuchar, S. Cutts, R. Giles.

Front Row, left to right—J. Jordan, A. Rackstraw, E. Rayner (Capt.), R. York, B. Pulsford.



RUGBY XV

Back Row, left to right—B. Richardson, L. Glanville, P. Werton, B. Cleverley, J. Pywell, J. Francis, R. Colgate, P. Ayling.

Front Row, left to right—B. Long, R. Grier, B. Pulsford, S. Painter (Capt.), I. Simmons, A. Painter, B. Harmon.

A School Anthology

Life in a French University

THE ATMOSPHERE of a French University is very different from that of colleges in Great Britain. A greater importance is perhaps given to academic achievements and examinations while social activities are somewhat neglected. Most students live in private lodgings and some of them stay in a "Cité Universitaire" which is no more than a cheap hostel designed for students.

There used to be very few organised meetings and parties. Yet a definite change was brought about by the war. Now most of us feel we belong to a living body of which we are proud. To us it is not our college that matters but our University or Faculty. On the Arts side we think very little of the students taking Law. And medical students frown upon the sickly scholars dwelling among Greek dictionaries.

Our student unions are not merely clubs where we can have a good time with our "pals". They endeavour to improve the material and intellectual position of every one of us. Our union passed agreements to obtain cheap fares in buses, cheap seats in theatres. Very often, we have coach trips together, frightening the peaceful inhabitants of the villages where the route of excited students happens to land.

When election time comes, most of us indulge in fierce political passions to such an extent that now and then meetings have to be forbidden by the Chairman of the University.

In Aix-en-Provence, we have a boisterous rag at the beginning of December. For one day the town is ours. Marching down from the Arts Faculty, the long file of students with gorgeous caps and painted faces, soon invades the quiet city, stopping the traffic and dancing on main cross-roads. Dons are not spared. We visit them in their homes, compelling them to deliver a burlesque speech. Sometimes we take a passer-by as a prisoner for a few minutes and the more reluctant he is, the more excited we are, singing and dancing around the innocent hostage.

"Si le bourgeois rouspète (protests)
On va le dissequer,
En faire de l'omelette,
Jusqu'à ce qu'il veuille chanter
Ohé Ohé vivent les étudiants de France
Ohé Ohé vivent les Universités".

The "student prince" would enjoy living with us. We work hard but we know how to enjoy ourselves. We like to frighten the man in the street now and then but without our presence Aix-en-Provence would be an old city without life and gaiety.

Foreign students are always welcomed and a special committee more or less controlled by the students of foreign languages makes sure that they enjoy their stay in Provence, arranging dances and excursions. Every year we entertain a party of Oxford students. One of our dons composed a special anthem for the occasion:

"Oxonians levons nos verres
A nos Universités,
Aix, Oxford, Bretagne et Provence,
Soyons amis, soyons toujours plus unis
Sous le signe de l'Esprit."

I am afraid this paper is already too long. When you leave school to go to college, don't forget to come and visit us. Come and enjoy the sunshine of the South and the warm friendship of Provencal Students.

G.T.

Sir Francis Drake And The Armada

Sir Francis Drake was playing bowls
When first the Armada was sighted,
Drake all the same, would not leave his game,
And his men became very fright'ed.

The Armada now was drawing near,
And still he played his game,
But then imploring him to fight,
To Drake, a nobleman came.

Now Drake had finished his game of bowls
And went the Armada to view.
He thought for a while, then said with a smile,
"I know what I will do."

Said he to the nobleman standing near,
"Get all the small boats in port,
And order your men to load all of them,
With brushwood and leaves of that sort."

Drake then had the brushwood set alight
And sent the small ships out.
As part of the Spanish Armada closed in
It was burnt and scattered in rout.

Then Drake's small fleet came sailing out,
Came sailing into the fight,
And when the astonished Spaniards saw this,
They at once began to take fright.

But they soon began to gather heart,
And then began to fight back,
So the English men had to work all the time,
And never a moment was slack.

Through the smoke and the haze the battle raged,
And Drake now could see no end
To this battle so great, to decide the fate
Of two nations, who could not be friends.

But then there came a sudden storm
Approaching from out to sea,
The British turned and ran for port,
But the Spanish had nowhere to flee.

They tried to avoid the mighty storm,
By reaching a safe little bay,
But their mighty fleet could not reach the place
And they were all swept away.

Right up the coast they were blown away,
Past Scotland they were swept,
And on the rocks, around that coast
A lot of them were wrecked.

The remnant sailed home, a beaten fleet,
Well and truly conquered that day,
And Drake's men stood and laughed at them,
As they watched them sail slowly away.

M. HEAD, 2L.

Ode: The Island

O not unheard thy call Waikiki shores!
Though scoffing company may dull thy voice
And mind rebuke the throbbing magic lores,
The fancy can rejoice
And all the world dissolve upon a shaft
Of dancing sunlight shot from thine own hands—
So can I join thy happy-wedded home.
And here I lie—no stranger—'gainst a native raft
Drawn idly up on sunburnt coral sands
Whereon, thus warmed, heaves lazy crested foam.

Faint breezes stir a jewelled and scented air
With waft of orchid and the luscious tropic weed;
And, ling'ring on the lips, brings taste of rare
Full-brimming wines on which the soul can feed.
For I must drink of perfect beauty now,
Before I lose this wing'ed fantasy!
Thus may I learn the truth—for I can hear
When so my tranced spirit will allow
Forgotten faith, rejected love to succour me!—
O why must there be fear?

G. J. RAYNOR, L.VI.

Pinky

Watching the pigeons in Trafalgar Square, I recalled to mind a touching incident that happened when I was in Ireland.

In Edinberry, a small village surrounded by peat-bogs, they were very fond of pigeon racing, and in the club house there were two great rivals, Paddy and Pat. Paddy's little bird was a real beauty, a little white bird with small pink eyes, and boy, could she fly! Unfortunately she had a great weakness; she would not enter the trap at the end of a race. Time and time again she would settle on the telegraph wires, and coo softly to herself, oblivious of Paddy's pleadings to go in, so that he could stamp the arrival time on her metal leg tag—the all important time that would prove her the winner.

Pat, quick on the uptake, lost no time in bragging about his black racer that always won. Paddy always looked rather sorry for himself and used to say, with some vehemence, "I'll show ye one day," but only to be laughed at by Pat.

The next racing day came, and the little wicker prisons were sent away on the train, and more than one person noticed the glint in Paddy's eye. Later on eyes began scanning the sky for returning birds. Pat, instructing his son to clock in his bird, followed Paddy down to his cottage, with some others. Soon the little Pinky fluttered onto the wires and began preening herself.

Squinting up at her, Paddy said: "Will ye no come down, me pretty?" But the little bird took no notice.

"Yer last chance, will ye no come down?"

But the little bird went on cooing to herself. Turning to Pat, Paddy said: "She'll win this race for all ye braggin', ye'll see," and looking up for signs of the other swiftly returning birds, he picked up a gun that leant against the wall, and fired at his bird. Slowly he picked up the small ball of blood-stained feathers, and gently removed its leg-tag, and with tears streaming down his face, stamped it with the time. Slowly the knot of people moved away to the village to tell this strange tale.

Even to this day, so I'm told, you can see in the window of Paddy's cottage the little white bird with pink eyes. For Paddy had it stuffed, and he's never raced pigeons since.

D. MORRIS, VA.

Windsor Castle

Bathed in the beauty of the sun's last light
 Sheer sixty feet the towering walls do rise,
 Raising their red-tipped turrets to the fiery skies
 Presenting what was once a fearful sight.
 This stately grey fortress of untold might
 Echoes forth the ancient warriors' cries
 Of victory or defeat; herein lies
 Many a tale of many an unhappy plight.
 Now round the walls the roofs of Windsor stand,
 And from the topmost turrets one can see
 Seven counties sprawling 'cross the land;
 A fitting view for English Royalty!
 While 'neath the Northern wall, day by day,
 Old Father Thames flows on his winding way.

G. MASON, IV Alpha.

Night

Out of my window, opened wide,
 I leant upon the still night air;
 The town lamps dimmed one by one,
 On empty streets and pavements bare.

Dirty drab puddles in the road,
 Shone back serene, pale, golden moons,
 And from the rain-washed slates there stood
 Chimneys in orderly platoons.

Stillness and silence wove a web
 Of strange nocturnal peace around;
 Trucks clanking on a far off line,
 An engine's shriek, the only sound.

J. Davenport, III L.

The Dale Saga

MARCH 23rd, 1955. About ten-thirty, Slough Station. The Upper Sixth Biologists were going away. That is not to say we were being taken away (as others have suggested) but were going of our own volition (and that of British Railways). Going away perhaps recalls the picture of a family, neatly clad in best clothes with tidy and well labelled suitcases, waiting for Daddy to buy the tickets. Not so in this instance. Daddy, who masqueraded as a certain member of staff, at various times was clad in rubber boots and (whisper it!) the raincoat he wears to school. What is more he already had the tickets. Mummy was not coming on this jaunt and the family consisted entirely of boys (there were those who thought this was a pity) and they were well-assorted. There were anoraks, sweaters, ski-jackets, boots, suitcases, berets, rucksacs and kitbags, a polychromatic hat with a polychromatic pom-pom, and there was, say it quietly, a School blue blazer resplendent with mucky duck and neatly creased flannels. But let that pass—time will cure all ills. The family was given a cheerful farewell by other members of the Upper Sixth, who doubtless were glad to see the back of them and return to their Mock Oxford papers.

It says much for the oft-maligned railways that we reached Paddington and then even found there was a train for where we wanted to go and, moreover, reserved compartments were found marked "Slough Grammar School: Pad. to

Haverfordwest." We knew at last our final destination and it was rumoured that one member of the happy family knew the reason why we were going, but more of that anon. To those members of my rapidly dwindling audience whose knowledge of geography is lacking, I would explain that Haverfordwest is in Pembrokeshire, in the very west of wild, woolly Wales, and is the station where one detains in order to reach Dale Fort Field Centre, on the coast of a branch of Milford Haven. The train left Paddington and proceeded to Cardiff, noticeable events being the Chelsea football team in the same train, the refreshment car, the Severn Tunnel and Newport. At Cardiff the train was joined by a mob of uncouth youths and young ladies(?) from an overgrown technical college "on the R. Avon, somewhere between Clifton and Bath", among them two O.B.'s. They were going to Dale also and we proceeded to make their acquaintance. Towns of names well known to fame—Llanely, Brigend, Margam, Swansea, Carmarthen and Gorseston Road were passed and three quarters of an hour late we hove into Haverfordwest. Yet later at about eight forty-five, coaches deposited us in Dale Village and "en masse" to the sound of various well-known marching songs the party walked the mile up the cliff road to the centre which is a forbidding stone-block fort, originally built to guard the entrance to Milford Haven, standing on sixty-foot sandstone cliffs. On arrival we were shown our quarters, reached by a staircase of small width and dungeon-like character, which were not luxurious but adequate and provided with a view (had we but been able to see it) across Dale Roads—to the other side. We ate—looked at the place (excellently provided with Lab. facilities, library, common room, etc.), talked, and retired to ease from our brows the strain of parting from our beloved comrades in Lascelles Road.

Came the dawn, and more important, came eight o'clock, and the breakfast warning bell rang. We rose, dressed and inspected the day. It was fine, warm with a slight breeze. All looked sunny and then: a cloud descended—Daddy explained the reason for our presence: we were here to WORK. This disturbing piece of information was digested with our "gruel thick and slab" [Macb. IV. i: 32]. Did someone say porridge? Someone else murmured "examinations" and an uneasy silence fell (along with one or two slices of fried bread, which fortunately did not break the tiles). Escape seemed impossible and it was decided to accept our fate.

Work did I say? Ah yes, we learnt a lot that week, and I recall isolated incidents: we learnt how to identify seaweeds and seashells, animals of various kinds: worms, razorshells, crabs (including one large Devil Crab who was christened as befitted his temperament) and anemones. We learnt how to dismantle the beds of certain aforementioned gentlemen, how to project water from varying receptacles with intent to wet, how to barricade a room and how to placate angry bed-owners. We washed up occasionally. We did a transect in pouring rain and a fifty m.p.h. wind. We did quadrats on unsuspecting rock pools, dug worms out of comfortable sands, went trawling in a cutter, caught little and cared even less. All this we did and were not ashamed. Some of our doings were recorded on film by an abstruse gentleman who sheltered beneath a cord cap. (For whose protection I am not able to say). Some bathed, others slept, a few slept at night. One morning a hitherto unknown national flag appeared on the flagpole but Daddy did not see and all was well. "Mine eyes are made the fools of the other senses [Macb. II: ii: 43].

The week passed, we made friends, lost some, learnt of Biology, Wales, of Bristol University and of life. We learnt that there was no hot water in the men's block and we could not shave. A certain fellow of uncertain reputation was dubbed as "furry"—lately he has tried to emulate his achievement but the pull of convention and his admirers is strong.

We would extend our thanks, inadequate though they be, to the Warden of Dale, for putting up with us, to Mr. Colombo who originated the idea last year and to "Daddy" who guided us, guarded, kept us, but did not, alas, feed us.

"Who knows Ecology, who only the text book knows?"

"IAIN RUADH."

The Fisherman's Ditty

(With apologies to Kenneth Grahame)

All along the backwaters
Past the rushes tall
Fisherfolk are fishing,
Down rods all!
Men's rods, boys' rods,
The fish are all a-quiver,
Many fish get out of sight
Lest they leave the river.
Everyone for what he likes;
These like to fish;
Everyone is hoping,
To catch a tasty dish.
Spotted trout, brown trout,
Every fish is there;
And whilst waiting, everyone
Hopes to get his share.
Down among the undergrowth
Where the roach do swim,
Fishers keep their ladders
Cool and full and dim.
Everyone for what he likes,
Fish all like to be
Heads down tails up
As long as they are free.
High up in the blue above
Swifts cavort and whirl,
While fisherfolk are fishing,
Down rods all!
"Everyone for what he likes,"
Fishermen agree,
"Fishing is the hobby
Just for you and me!"

I. STUART, I.C.

How To Write Opera

YOU MIGHT think that opera-writing is extremely difficult; actually with a little practice it is very easy to excel in. The basic essentials are five principal characters: two men heroes—tenor and baritone, two lady heroines—soprano and contralto (termed a mezzo-soprano if she has a sore throat) and a rich villainous bass who is often the soprano's father. At the beginning all is made simple. Each character enters and sings his own song (aria) to announce three things—his name, his lover and his own plot for dealing with the rich villainous bass. During the action the tenor is disguised as the baritone and the baritone as the contralto's music teacher. This tends to confuse the issue, especially when the rich villainous bass begins to sing, "O! thou art a villain, sir", out of the bedroom window, while the tenor—now disguised as his grandmother—serenades the soprano two yards away. All will turn out right in the end of course, when the baritone finds out that he is the villain's mother.

Another requisite is that every line should be sung at least three times. This is barely noticed except when the opera is in your own language. Wagner got over the difficulty by a very simple method—take a line by a composer like Mozart: "I am dead, I am dead, I am dead." With Wagner it would read: "I am dead, I live no more, My life has ended."

Quartets, such as those famous by Rossini, are very simple to construct. They consist of four lines, one of which is given to each character. At the fall of the baton each character attempts to sing his or her line twenty times and finish before anybody else including the orchestra. Thus the whole thing is

totally unintelligible to the audience—which is just as it should be. Quartets are especially useful when you are running short of libretto.

A tragic end is a very good idea. For this you need a prison cell and a devil. The heroine floats up and down stone steps saving her soul, the hero lies wounded on the floor, and the devil stands in a dark corner singing even darker songs. At an opportune moment, someone lets the curtain down to a storm of applause all round.

E. J. RAYNER, U. VI.

A Crowd at a Football Match

ARRIVING AT LAST at the entrance of Stamford Bridge Football Ground I have scarcely time to look around me before I am swept in with the large crowd of spectators, who, in a solid mass of about twelve deep, are pouring up to the turnstiles, where they are forced to thin out a little and to wait, fuming impatiently, before going in. At last, having bought a programme, I take up my position on the terraces where I can recover my breath and take in my surroundings. I am standing in a sea of the blue and white favours of the Chelsea supporters. Immediately opposite, on the other side of the ground, is the red mass of the supporters of Manchester United whom Chelsea are playing today. There is a deafening roar from the fans as the two teams run out onto the field and the game is soon under way.

Scarcely has the opening whistle gone, when Bentley, the Chelsea centre-forward, ends a dazzling run by beating goalkeeper, Wood, with a low shot. But the referee has spotted the linesman frantically waving his flag for offside, and he gives a free kick accordingly. A fat, beery man behind me roars his disapproval, "Not on yer life ref!" His neighbour disagrees, and a loud and frenzied argument ensues until they are told to, "Shut up!" by the rest of the crowd.

Back on the field of play Manchester have the ball and with a swift move of the forward line, break away and score. A horrible silence falls upon the Chelsea supporters who have to endure the derisive cheering of the red Manchester mass on the other side of the field. A thin little man in a dirty cloth cap and with a wet cigarette drooping from his mouth leans furtively across to me "They always take a quarter of an hour to get going," he confides.

As a peanut vendor comes through the crowd a dirty hand containing a sixpence shoots over my shoulder, and turning round I see a small boy in a blue and white scarf nearly as big as he is, grab a packet of nuts and start chewing noisily. At last Chelsea get a well deserved goal and there is a terrific roar from fifty thousand throats. Close on half-time the Chelsea inside left, Stubbs, running back puts the ball by mistake past his own goalkeeper.

More derisive cheers from the Manchester contingent! The same fat beery man who had objected previously, bellows forth a stream of abuse and blasphemous words from which I gather that the unfortunate inside left, in his opinion, ought never to have been in the team. He'd always said he was useless.

Ah! half-time and I take the opportunity to have another look at my fellow spectators. Down at the front of the terraces, pressed against the railings, is a line of teenager girls in blue and white striped sweaters with, "Chelsea" printed across them in capitals. On my right is a tall thin man dressed in a very long black coat. "Terrible this season," he says with morbid relish, "two-one? why it ought to be six-one!"

His neighbour nods knowingly. "Probably will be by the finish," he predicts gloomily. Meanwhile the half-time scores have been put up on the board, and many of the crowd are whipping out their pools coupons and are comparing the scores with darkening brows. The second half starts. It is an inspired Chelsea that turn out from the dressing room and in the next thirty minutes the inside left, who had been so derided by our fat friend, scores three times. The latter turns round joyfully, "What did I tell you?" he challenges everyone. "I always said that boy's a wonder. He's the best player on the field!"

At last the whistle goes, and as the players troop wearily off to a great cheer, the inevitable crowd of autograph hunters invades the pitch. The crowd turns and streams out, still arguing, and I, too, make my way to the gates, marvelling as I go, at the many kinds of personalities that make up a crowd at a football match.

R. COOPER, V.L.

"Bird-Bread"

On the topmost branch of the almond-tree
A beautiful thrush is singing;
With a querulous eye he looks at me,
And then on his way goes winging.

Onto the bird-table I place some bread,
And many bright birds come flocking;
But one cheeky robin, his breast so red,
Takes it, the other birds mocking.

Straight-way he makes off with his wholesome prize—
The others just pity their plight,
And follow the robin with doleful eyes
Until he's flown right out of sight.

"But never despair, you mis'erable birds!
There is plenty more whence that came."
I took out some more, and they had no words
To thank me—but did, all the same.

J. R. G. LITTLE (LVI).

Cactus and Succulent Growing as a Hobby

Firstly I think it necessary to explain the terms "Cactus" and "Succulent." These plants belong to the variety of plants known as "Xerophytes" or drought-resisting plants. The Cactus has its leaves reduced to spines to minimise the loss of water through evaporation and the Succulent has its leaves and stem adapted to store the maximum possible water. The effort put into the growing of these plants is greatly rewarded, I think, when the plants flower. Cactus and Succulent flowers are, on the whole, more beautiful than any other pot plant that I know. At this point, I think it necessary to explode the fallacy that Cacti flower only once in seven years. They do, of course, flower every year, when of mature size, under the correct conditions. The size of a mature Cactus plant can vary. I have one plant which flowered when only one inch across, whereas in America there is the so-called "Century Plant" which does not flower until it is about seventy-five years old and is up to thirty feet across.

Now for the actual culture of the plants. First and foremost of the necessities for growing Cacti is the correctly-proportioned compost. This compost must be very open and porous to allow the free passage of water, for if water is left around the base of a plant, it will easily rot off and quickly die. Therefore the principal ingredient of the compost must be some sharp sand or grit. Next must come some substance with nutritive content such as a good loam. These should be mixed in about equal quantities. Lastly, the pot must have plenty of crocks or similar material over the drainage hole in the bottom. The next requirement for Cacti and Succulents is water. This must be carefully given in the correct season, namely that season when the plant is growing. Most of the more common plants are Summer growers, so I shall just deal with these. Watering should be commenced when the plants start growth, in about February or March. Gradually increase the amount given until watering is necessary about twice per week. Never give Cacti any water while the compost is damp, but wait until they completely dry out. Decrease the quantity of water given from September until October when watering should cease until the following Spring. Water is best given to Cacti from the surface of the compost rather than by allowing the plant to soak water up from below. Now for the most satisfactory position for keeping Cacti. The best place is somewhere where the plants will receive the maximum sunlight for most of the day. Either a bay window or a greenhouse facing South is ideal. Ventilation, too, is important, as stagnant air can be most harmful to Cacti. Some of the more hardy Succulents like to be kept in the open, when the danger of frosts has passed.

Now comes the question, "When should we repot?" It is a good idea to repot every Spring, as this tends to encourage the necessary root-growth of the plants.

Some of the more well-known types of plant for the beginner are:-
the Opuntia—more commonly known as the "Prickly Pear";
the Cereus—columnar cacti of many varieties;
the Rebutia—famed for flowering easily when small;
the Mammillaria—also easily flowered;
the Zygocactus—or "Christmas Cactus";
the Sedum—many varieties of which are common rock plants; and
the Crassula—easily flowered bushy plants.

For anybody seriously interested in growing these plants, there are two large Societies in this country, and I think it thoroughly worthwhile to join as many benefits can be gained from them.

M. DOVEY (VLI).

A Gull

Riding high on a windy wave,
Topping the crest with a feathered fleck of foam,
Live and soaring—free, free
Of the air and sea and empyrean space;
Unfettered to this holding troubled earth—
Free, to wander with the will and the wind
Away in the greying sky of this senile season and
Swinging forth on your arc
To billow the deep of the twisting flood.
Cry joy in your sepulchral shriek, no less
Your grey bow no sorrow hold
To share with the burdened sky, and snow-breasted
Cleave to the sun-blued blue,
Then having bathed—swoop,
Down to the gusting seeds of an unborn Spring
In this maddened March.

I. G. SIMMONS, (UVI).

Pensees En Regardant Un Torrent

Puis la neige a fondu, et l'on revoit partout
—Le soleil au-dessus; au-dessous les cailloux—
Des rivières en crue, sans cesse l'eau qui bout.
Ce mot "Printemps" évoque une telle beauté:
Mais celui-ci se moque du prochain été
Tandis que, sourds, les rocs, par les fleuves heurtés,
Sentent sur leur échine la violence des flots.

J. R. LITTLE (LVI).

European Tour, 1954

"TANDEM BOYS HITCH-HIKE FROM ITALY." That was the headline in the national newspapers when Barry Garner and I returned from our 2,340 mile tour of the continent last summer. We set off on July 27th on a tandem fitted with a motor. After several punctures we were rushed to Lympe airport in a van to catch our cross-channel plane. From Calais we started our way on our tour in which we hoped to cycle around Europe and stay in Youth Hostels at nights. Only the last part worked out. With mechanical trouble all the way we managed to visit Ostend, Bruges and Brussels in Belgium within five days. At the end of the week we reached Luxembourg and after staying in a castle surrounded by beautiful valleys and forests we arrived at the capital where we immediately sent the tandem back by rail. From now on it was hitch-hiking for us. We were very lucky and obtained a 191 mile lift in a 40 ton lorry and trailer to Heidelberg. After a day here we travelled 212 miles with 3 lifts to Munich, the capital of Bavaria. From here we went by car and train to Innsbruck in the Austrian Tyrol and here we went to the top of Mount Hafelekhar (7,600 ft.) by cable railway. After finding hitching difficult here we went by train over the Brenner Pass to Italy and then again by car past Lake

Guarda to Milan with its magnificent Cathedral and friendly people. An oil lorry took us to Genoa and the unforgettably blue Mediterranean. It was impossible to leave this wonderful sea and before passing to the French Riviera we rested on the Italian Riviera of flowers. Through the crowded towns of Monte Carlo, Nice and Cannes we rushed for we had an appointment in Aix-en-Provence at the house of M. Lauteau, last year's French Assistant who received us very hospitably. After a frustrating 8 hour wait at Avignon we arrived at Lyons by train to find the warm weather of the south replaced by cold rain. Plenty of lifts were forthcoming from now on, however, and we were soon in Paris which we explored thoroughly. The journey was nearly over and soon we were in Ostend again, this time crossing the channel by boat. Our journey ended at midnight on August 24th. We were tired but happy. The tour had encompassed 6 countries and not only had we seen wonderful sights but we had met people of many different races; from Australian to Indo-Chinese. Our sincere thanks are due to the members of staff and the Head who encouraged and helped us from the start of this venture. Would we do it again? In six weeks I will be hitch-hiking in Italy. Why don't you try it?

E. WALLNER (UVI).

News From The Old Boys

University Notes

AT THE beginning of each school year, one always hears mentioned the names of many boys who have proceeded to University, where they continue their specialised studies. As the number of boys that are sent to University increases each year, and as they have usually held positions of high esteem within the School, we feel certain that fellow students, friends and tutors would like to have news of them. So this year we are making an attempt to provide the link, which for so long has been broken, with our University students. We hope that news will be sent more often to the School in future years.

Several of our Old Boys are now at Oxford and it is pleasing to note the varied range of activities they indulge in. R. Neale is taking "schools" this term and so is probably working extra hard. Let us wish him the best of luck. David Bowers and Brian Pearson are now in their second year, as is Dickson, who is coxing one of the New College Eights. P. Leach, after having served his National Service, is also studying hard, but is also finding time to row with Wadham College IV Eight. One begins to wonder what Oxford students would do without the River Thames.

Many friends of Ben Climer will be pleased to know that he is continuing with success at the Imperial College of Science, London, where he is studying for a Physics degree. He has been playing hockey regularly for the Royal College of Science, as well as for Imperial College itself. He seems to be having a sporting time for he has also taken keen interest in ice-skating, tennis, badminton, and of late, swimming.

News from Bristol is hard to receive, but last year five of our students commenced studying there. They were R. Glanville, W. Simmons, H. Grimwood, B. Ackrell and R. Gale. Of these we know that R. Gale and B. Ackrell enjoyed considerable success in playing soccer for University representative teams. Of our older "Pals" at Bristol, M. Johnson is captaining the University Second XI cricket, while J. Ray is taking finals this term. W. Bradshaw, serving time at Reading, has assured us that he is enjoying life immensely there, where he has already beaten the record for the "Pint-swallow", and is now coaching the women's rowing Eight.

London always carries a fair representation from School too, and at the London School of Economics, T. Groome has taken his finals, after being elected the best University Debate speaker in the country. We should like to wish him the best for success in the future. Also at L.S.E. are F. Holness, last year's School Captain, and W. Birnage. At University College we have W. Elwell, and our Medical Students now include D. White, R. Faulkner and D. Willé.

B.J.G.

The Old Paludians

IT IS PLEASING to know that interest in the Club has continued to expand. Twelve dances have been held at the Dolphin Hotel, Slough, and there is no doubt that the younger members have helped to make them even more successful than during the previous year. Amongst the London shows visited have been "Intimacy at 8.30," "The Watchmaker," "London Laughs" and "Salad Days."

The work on the development of Pope's Field Sports ground has continued, but more volunteers are urgently required to assist with work, as follows: Sunday (mornings), Wednesday and Thursday (evenings), Saturday (afternoons). It is only by increased efforts now that the ground can be made ready for early use.

Other activities to raise funds have included the holding of two Jumble Sales, and the organisation of Xmas and Derby Draws. A new venture will be the holding of a fete, in conjunction with the School, on Saturday, 9th July, being the same day as the School v. Old Pals. Cricket match.

Next year it is intended to start a further section in the *Swan* containing news of Old Boys' marriages, promotions, etc. Our news-sleuth will be Vernon Wardell.

Two years ago I announced the setting-up of an E. R. Clarke Memorial Fund. I am pleased to report that it is hoped that by the time this magazine is published, that a lectern will have been presented to the School in memory of Mr. Clarke.

May I take this opportunity of thanking a very helpful Committee during this past year, and hope that they will be willing to serve again in the coming year.

S. W. JONES (*Hon. Secretary*).

Football Club

OUR RESULTS during last season were very disappointing. After a very successful 1953-54 season we hoped that the Club would continue with success. Unfortunately we lost the services of six of our previous season's 1st XI. Among these was Denis Edwards, whom we congratulate on receiving a Berks and Bucks Senior Cup winner's medal during his first season in senior football.

All three of our teams played in the Old Boys' League and finished 9th, 10th and 11th respectively in their various divisions. Our 3rd XI had the best "cup-run" by winning through to the Quarter-Final of the London Old Boys' Cup.

Next season we are hoping to enter a team in the Slough and Windsor Youth League and a few of the present schoolboys have stated their desire to play in this team. The Club are giving this team full support and we hope they have a successful season. To make room for this side we are entering two teams only in the Old Boys' League.

We were fortunate in having the following schoolboys playing for us last season: "Chips" Parsons, Alan Rackstraw, Charlie Roberts, Clive Toogood and Jimmy Willis.

Our thanks go once again to the Head Master for allowing us use of the School facilities last season.

E. C. COE (*Hon. Secretary*).

Officials for season 1955-56:-

Chairman: H. F. G. West; *Hon. Secretary*: E. C. Coe; *Hon. Team and Fixture Secretary*: J. Tebbitt; *Hon. Treasurer*: D. Nicholas; *Hon. Assistant Secretary*: R. Cook; *Committee*: R. Buckland, R. Bush, W. Loveday and G. Pontin. *Captains*: 1st XI, R. Buckland; 2nd XI, A. Jenkins.

Hockey Club

WE ARE PLEASSED to report that once again the Old Pals Hockey Club has enjoyed a successful season. On the whole, we were much stronger than last year, as many of our members returned to regular hockey, and it is hoped that we shall continue to improve and strengthen our three teams.

Last year members started playing summer hockey, and as this proved quite popular, a few annual fixtures will be made in future.

During 1954-55, we attended two Six-a-side Tournaments, G.W.R. at the beginning of the season, and Woking after Easter. Woking proved our best achievement of the year, when the Club went down 2-nil in the final to Southern Railway.

In addition, the Old Pals were again well represented in County Hockey. The players chosen this season numbered six, and were Frank Robotham, Ron Fidler, Tony Stevenson, Paddy May, Martin Haisman and Ken MacLaughlin, whilst Colin Thompson, now in the R.A.F., plays regularly for the Combined Services and was recently chosen as reserve for England. We are sorry that Ron Fidler has now been obliged to give up hockey. However, he has kindly agreed to umpire all our 1st XI games next season, whilst Frank Robotham has decided to become a full playing member once more.

Our 1st XI had its best season since 1950, and remained unbeaten within Bucks. The team played well throughout, except for the usual New Year loss of form. The defence was consistently sound, but unfortunately the forwards were not always successful, and their main strength lay with their wingers.

Once again the 2nd XI had a rather poor season, due principally to the absence of many regular players, but it is anticipated that next year they will return to full strength, and with good team spirit, should surpass their best performance of 1952-53.

We continued to field a regular 3rd XI, improved in strength, since last season, and obviously beginning to benefit from the enthusiasm which these young members of the Club have always shown since the XI was formed three years ago. At the beginning of the season the 3rd XI Captain, Eric Ridgeway, left us to take up a post in Rhodesia, and the Committee invited Bill Bradshaw to take over his duties, with Michael Deucher to help him as Schoolboy Representative. The XI again consisted mainly of boys at School, and it is hoped that they will continue to support the Old Boys, and play hockey with us, because we depend upon them to increase our membership.

It was agreed at our Annual General Meeting that a summer coaching programme, for members of the upper school, should commence on Tuesday, June 14th, at 7 p.m. on Lascelles Playing Fields, and continue every alternate Tuesday, thenceforward, until the end of September. All those boys interested are asked to contact Michael Deuchar.

Our new ground at Taplow is still under development, so for the present we shall continue to play at Lascelles Playing Fields, and use the amenities of the School. We are indebted to the Head Master for kindly allowing us this privilege, and to Bert Charman for supplying the teas and showers each week.

Cricket Club

E. W. HAMBLET (*Hon. Secretary*).

Season 1954 was a poor season as far as the weather was concerned and there were few week-ends when games were not interrupted. Six matches had to be abandoned completely and of the other twenty-nine started, a further six were unfinished. Of the games finished the Pals won twelve and lost eleven. One notable defeat was the seven wicket win by the School for whom J. Jordan bowled very well.

Batting averages were well below normal for the season, no batsman having an average of over twenty. V. Martin had an average of 17.88, and was followed by P. May, 17.18; H. Jones, 15.63; and D. Edwards, 13.87. Of the bowlers, D. Edwards took 62 wickets for an average of 84.5, followed by P. Seal, 60 wickets at 8.65, R. Bruce, 50 wickets at 9.74, and P. May, 13 wickets at 10.69.

The Pals suffered a severe loss at the start of the season when Jim Osborne was put out of action and they did not find a settled opener to fill his place throughout the season. His loss can be emphasized by the fact that his average to date this season is well over 40. In the Slough Six-a-side tournament the Pals were unfortunate to meet the strong Horlicks side in the first round but they went out fighting. This season the Pals have cleared the first hurdle, narrowly beating Windsor Exiles.

To date the Pals have won three out of the five games played, trouncing Iver by 9 wickets and Eton Wick by 8 wickets. In the latter match J. Osborne scored 59 not out.

R. ASHLEY (*Secretary*).